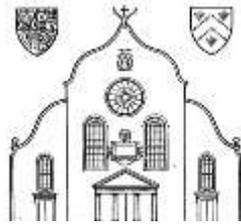


CANONGATE KIRK
THE KIRK OF HOLYROODHOUSE
& EDINBURGH CASTLE
www.canongatekirk.org.uk

Newsletter August 2022



ASSISTANT MINISTER'S LETTER

Neil and I have both been away on our holidays in July, Neil journeying to France and my family to Romania. I commented one Sunday after getting back from Romania that the Gospels take everyone on a journey, by teaching us and revealing different things to us about the life of Jesus. Following that journey, we can get to know our God better and understand more of what was achieved by Jesus, just as I now know and understand Romania more than I did before travelling there.

We are all on our own journeys through life. My own journey to ministry with you at Canongate Kirk is drawing to a close at the end of August. With the changes the Church of Scotland is going through my family and I were unsure what would happen after Canongate. Almost no vacant charges are currently being allowed to call ministers. As a result, we are not preparing to move home or change schools as was often the case when Probationers left you before. However, I do have a job within the Church, starting on 1 September. I have been invited by Presbytery to take a role working out of our home congregation, Palmerston Place Church. The aim of that role is (like a good sermon!) threefold. I will be working to achieving a closer relationship with the neighbouring congregations with which PPC is to join under the Presbytery plan, to build mission plans for the future of these west-end congregations and to carry out some of the standard parochial duties at PPC. I should be ordained as a minister at that point, and I will ask Neil to pass on the details for that once they have been set. It would be lovely to have you join Wendy, our girls and me at my ordination, as we move on to the next stage of our journey.

Canongate Kirk will continue its own journey after we have gone, rebuilding the communities which ceased to function as before during the pandemic, finding avenues to be the Good News to the Parish and in civic roles, and exploring your own future within the Church of Scotland on the Royal Mile. The future is seldom clear, but we journey into it nevertheless knowing that we do not face it alone, that our God goes with us and that ultimately our journeys can end with Him, enjoying His love and presence eternally. Thank you for hosting us at Canongate Kirk and God bless us all as we each continue our journeys in Christ's church.

Douglas

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

3rd July

Ranulf James Bayart Swinton Gow

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...”

Wedding

23rd July

Philippa Morris & Thomas Hartrick

“Those whom God has joined together, let not man divide.”

Blessing of Civil Marriage

1st July

Jonathan Brodie & Craig Drummond

“The Lord bless you and keep you...”

OPEN KIRK

With restrictions easing and visitors on the Royal Mile increasing, we restarted Open Kirk on Sunday 1st May. We continue to focus on Sunday afternoons primarily and volunteers are encouraged to sign up for slots from 12-2pm or from 2- 4pm on the board in the Kirk foyer. The hope is that the first shift might appeal to someone who has come to church and could stay on for a while after the service. But if you can help at other times that’s good too, and the board in the foyer now includes weekdays as well. Just please be aware of the times when the church is already booked for concerts and events. These are marked on the board and can also be seen in our online calendar on the website. If you have not helped to welcome visitors and tourists before, and would like to find out more, please have a word with Lesley Wallace, our Open Kirk Co-ordinator.

BOOKS FOR BORROWING

Did you know that in the foyer cupboard at the Kirk there is a shelf of books with particular relevance to Canongate that can be borrowed by anyone, not least newcomers to the church or parish? Some of them specifically tell the history of our church and parish, others focus on military connections or other associations – the latest additions include a book by Heidi Kuhn, who recently gave a talk on her charity work turning minefields into vineyards in Afghanistan, and *Celebrating Seventy-Five Years 1947 – 2022*, an oral history of St John Scotland, its work and its volunteers.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL OF THE SACRED ARTS 2022

Celebrating the rich Christian tradition in music, visual art, poetry, drama and architecture, the Edinburgh Sacred Arts Festival takes place annually as part of the Edinburgh Fringe. This year, it has expanded from its usual base at St Vincent’s Chapel, Stockbridge to include a number of other venues with events here at Canongate Kirk and also St Mary’s Catholic Cathedral, Old Saint Paul’s, Church of the Sacred Heart, Mansfield Traquair and St Michael and All Saints’. The Festival runs from Sunday 14th – Saturday 20th August. Programme and tickets are available from <https://www.edinburghsacredartsfestival.org/festival-2022.html>

QUEEN’S GALLERY EXHIBITION

Masterpieces of Buckingham Palace: a chance to enjoy some of the greatest paintings from the Royal Collection, with works by Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Rubens and Artemisia removed from the Picture Gallery at Buckingham Palace and temporarily displayed at The Queen’s Gallery, Edinburgh. This wonderful show gives visitors a rare opportunity to get close to these masterpieces and find out why the newspapers are calling it: *Pure magic* ★★★★★ (The Scotsman); *An unmissable event* (The Guardian); *one of the world’s most spectacular àààcollections* (The Times). Tickets and information: <https://bit.ly/3sHW0Ji> Until 25th September.

CONCERTS AT CANONGATE KIRK IN AUGUST

- Friday 12th** **7.30pm** **Opera dei Lumi** **£16/£13/£10**
Influencing Mozart Join Opera dei Lumi as they explore key figures from Mozart's rich musical upbringing.
- Saturday 13th** **8pm** **Alastair Savage** **£14/£12/£7**
Scots Fiddle Old and New One of Scotland's leading fiddle exponents returns with a spectacular line-up and a new 2022 album release.
- Sunday 14th** **4pm** **Stray Notes Choir** **FREE**
Harrogate choir the Stray Notes sing some of your favourite pop, rock and show numbers with a sprinkling of other styles from across the world such as Take on Me, Sweet Dreams, a Bon Jovi Medley and the ever-popular One Day More.
- Monday 15th** **7.30pm** **Edinburgh Bach Ensemble** **£12/£10/£5**
Bach, Vivaldi, Handel Bach's Keyboard Concerto in F, Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 5. the Vivaldi Piccolo Concerto RV 443 and Handel's Concerti Grossi Op 6 No 1 and 12
- Wednesday 17th** **1.15pm** **Edinburgh Sacred Arts Festival Concert** **£15**
Quartet for the End of Time Calum Robertson's Quartet play Olivier Messiaen's work for clarinet, violin, cello and piano, written when Messiaen was a prisoner of war in German captivity and first performed in 1941 by fellow prisoners.
- Thursday 18th** **7.30pm** **Edinburgh Bach Ensemble** **£12/£10/£5**
Bach, Vivaldi, Handel Bach Orchestral Suite No 1, Handel Concerto Grosso Op 3 No 4, Vivaldi A Minor Concerto and Bach Solo Cantata.
- Friday 19th** **7.30pm** **Airigh Orchestra** **£14.50/£9.50**
Piano Concerto Festival Airigh Orchestra celebrates the amazing depth and variety of the classical piano concerto genre
- Saturday 20th** **12 noon** **David Hamilton Organ Recital** **£8/£6**
Bach à la Française David Hamilton performs some of the French-influenced organ music of Bach on our superb Frobenius instrument.
- Saturday 20th** **7.30pm** **Spinacino Consort** **£12/£10/£5**
Away Vain World Exploring the Scottish Reformation through the prism of the poetry of Elizabeth Melville, the Scottish woman to see her poetry in print, and who wrote contrafactum on psalms, English lute song and French Air de Cour.
- Saturday 27th** **4pm** **Great Yorkshire Chorus** **£7/£4**
Sing! Hits from Coldplay, Fleetwood Mac, Queen and more, reborn with an electrifying choral twist.

Tickets for all concerts available on the door or from <https://www.edfringe.com/>

KIRKYARD UPDATE

As part of the Council's ongoing programme of improvements to the Kirkyard all paths have recently been re-laid with fresh gravel, both alongside the Kirk building and further afield. It's all looking much tidier these days and well worth a look.

QR CODE

We remain hugely grateful to everyone who has supported Canongate Kirk financially by various methods over the last two challenging years. The contactless machine in the foyer has come in very handy, but it's worth noting that we are unable to claim Gift Aid on donations that come in via this means. If you regularly donate via the contactless machine and would like the congregation to claim Gift Aid on your donation, at no further cost to yourself, please have a word with Jenifer Davidson, our Treasurer. Meanwhile we have a new means of facilitating donations to Canongate Kirk, using this QR code. When scanned with your smart phone it will take you straight to our digital donations page.



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

EXPLORING EDINBURGH

Last year, Luath Press published a book about the architecture of Edinburgh, *Exploring Edinburgh* by Robin Ward, which features Canongate Kirk among other Edinburgh landmarks. Each building in the book is photographed and its architecture and history explored in a fascinating and compelling way. Copies can be ordered at £10.99 direct from the publisher at <https://www.luath.co.uk/> with 20% off orders over £20 using the code LUATH2020 and 30% off over £50 with LUATH3050.

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