

# Old Parish and St Paul's Church, Galashiels

Old Parish and St Paul's Church of Scotland, Galashiels, is a Charity, SC010389, regulated by OSCR  
 ~ Linked with [St John's Church](#), Hawthorn Road, Langlee, Galashiels TD1 2JZ ~  
 ~ In Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles ([www.melrosepeeblespresbytery.org.uk](http://www.melrosepeeblespresbytery.org.uk)) ~

## Newsletter ♦ Feb / Mar 2020

PDF edition available at [www.oldparishandstpauls.org.uk/newsletters.htm](http://www.oldparishandstpauls.org.uk/newsletters.htm)

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### Dates for your Diary

(further details may be in this Newsletter or the Sunday Bulletin)

#### Regular Events

- ♦ **Sunday Morning Worship:** 11.30 except for Joint Services (see foot of column for locations and times)  
♦ Next Communion: 10th May 2020
- ♦ **Sunday Evening Worship:** 18.30  
♦ Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct. & Dec. in St Paul's; alternate months in St John's  
♦ Communion: last Sunday each month
- ♦ **Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 10.00 at 2 Abbotsview Gardens
- ♦ **Badminton for Seniors:** Wednesdays at 10.00
- ♦ **Guild:** fortnightly on Wednesdays, normally at 14.15
- ♦ **Lunch Club:** Thursdays at 12.30
- ♦ **Music Makers:** fortnightly on Thursdays at 19.30
- ♦ **Boys' Brigade:** Fridays from 18.00 (during school term)

#### Other Events

- ♦ **Soup and Sweet Lunch:** Sunday 23rd February after the Morning Service (c. 12.45) in the Main Hall: £3.50 (£1.00 for a young person).
- ♦ **Joint Lenten Study:** this weekly course open to all starts on Wednesday 26th February for 5 weeks in the Small Hall of Old Parish and St. Paul's Church.
- ♦ **Annual Stated Meeting:** Tuesday 24th March at 7 pm; guest speaker is Stuart Weir, National Director of CARE for Scotland (Christian Action, Research and Education), who will give a presentation on the work of CARE.
- ♦ **Joint Services of Worship**
  - ♦ Sunday 1st March at 11.00 in St John's
  - ♦ Sunday 5th April (Palm Sunday) at 11.30 in Old Parish and St Paul's.

### Moderator joins church leaders to call for end to Brexit bitterness

**Rt Rev. Colin Sinclair has joined 10 other church leaders from across the UK in signing a statement calling for an end to the bitterness and divisions of Brexit.**

"As Church leaders, we are united in wishing to seek God's guidance and a sense of common purpose as we move from this chapter of the Brexit process into the next," the statement says.

"As Christians, we affirm our belief that all people are equally created in God's image. Our country should be one that offers sanctuary to refugees and is intolerant of those who hate because of a person's race or nationality. Both Leave and Remain campaigns agreed on this – we must now make it a reality.

"The continuing challenges of the climate crisis, global inequality and conflict will require both resolve and close international co-operation to be addressed effectively."

The Church leaders have also sent a letter to European churches saying:

"We greatly value the love and friendship of our sisters and brothers in other European churches, and have written to them publicly to assure them that these relationships will continue.

"We also recognise that 31 January will bring uncertainty and anxiety to many EU citizens living in the UK and British citizens living in the EU. Leaving the EU cannot mean abandoning our responsibilities towards these families."

"For our part, our Churches will be working and praying for:

- ♦ a society where the poorest and most marginalised are at the centre
- ♦ a society that welcomes the stranger
- ♦ a just economy that enables the flourishing of all life
- ♦ a planet where the environment is renewed
- ♦ a world which actively works for peace
- ♦ a politics characterised by listening, kindness and truthfulness.

The statement ends with a call to prayer for the future:

"We pray for the people of the UK, for our leaders, and for the whole of Europe, as we mark this significant moment together."

Adapted 31/01/2020 from:

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2020/moderator-joins-church-leaders-to-call-for-end-to-brexit-bitterness>

## Annual Golf Awards

Nine golfers enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Kingsknowes Hotel on the evening of Thursday 16th January, which was followed by the prizegiving and a carpet-putting competition, an annual tradition.

Our thanks go to Jim Tennant for organising our outings, arranging the venues and providing the prizes; to Robert Lamont of the Kingsknowes Hotel for providing appropriate accommodation for the annual dinner and carpet-putting; to Rev. Duncan McCosh for hosting our Pairs Competition at Craigmillar Park, where he is a member; and finally to Peter Townsend for arranging our annual outing to Longniddry Golf Club, of which he is a member, for our annual Texas Scramble Competition.

The accompanying picture shows the diners with their respective trophies.

The following awards were made:

- 🏆 Longest Drive: Jim Tennant
- 🏆 Birdie Trophy: Ian Henderson
- 🏆 Nearest the pin: Duncan Sandison
- 🏆 Galaxy Golf Award: Steve Fox
- 🏆 Chip and Pin Trophy: Keith Simpson
- 🏆 Wooden Spoon: Richard Noble
- 🏆 Best Putter: Colin Hanley
- 🏆 Player of the Year: Robert Lamont
- 🏆 Pairs Competition Winners: Iain Affleck (Harburn GC) & Peter Sandison
- 🏆 Best scratch score (George Henderson Memorial Trophy): Rev. Duncan McCosh
- 🏆 Texas Scramble winners: Robert Lamont, Colin Hanley & Peter Sandison
- 🏆 Singles Champion, winning the new Kingsknowes Hotel Trophy: Duncan Sandison
- 🏆 Winners of the Sandseeker Tourist Trophy: Jim Tennant and Robert Lamont



## Joint Lenten Bible Study

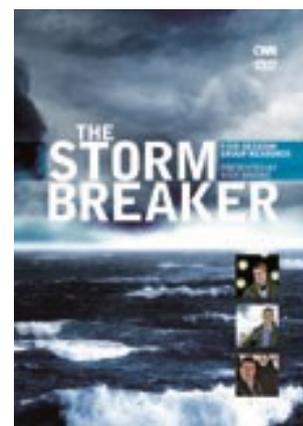
We are holding a Joint Lenten Bible Study at Old Parish and St Paul's running for 5 weeks.

The series starts on Wednesday 26th February at 7.30 pm in the Small Hall. Each session will begin with a cup of tea or coffee.

The study will be based on a DVD resource, *The Stormbreaker*, which explores the foundations of our faith which help us face the storms of life, the cross and resurrection of Jesus. There are accompanying study booklets published by [CWR](#).

As with "Christianity Explored", we will be in small study groups, with at least 2 facilitators/leaders for each group. Our invitation to this free series is open to all, and we hope to welcome members of other congregations.

Irene Glenfield



## Tearfund Scotland Christmas Concert

On Sunday 1st December 2019, a sizeable audience, including a number of visitors outwith our congregation, enjoyed a concert of acoustic carols and original songs performed by The New Scottish Hymns Band.

The concert would not have been possible without the planning of Jim Tennant, ably assisted on the night by a team of stewards and folk helping to serve refreshments, including mince pies and mulled wine, during the interval. Thanks to them all!

An email of thanks and appreciation from Tearfund Scotland is reproduced on the next page with a brief report on their Scotland-wide tour.

## A word of thanks

Greta Cameron would like to thank all those who prayed, sent cards and good wishes at the time of her recent operation.

## Anchor Boys



Overheard in the church, "I do wish we had children in church. It would be great."

On Friday evening there are many boys, of all ages, spending up to four hours in our church every week. Parents are welcomed and in the younger section join the boys for the closing worship.

Do come and meet these church youngsters and parents. Do consider helping with eight younger boys, aged 6-7 years, who meet from 6-7 pm each week.

For more information please contact the Boys' Brigade Captain, Robbie Noble, or Jean Donaldson on 07903 110496.

## Appeal for Comfort International

My brother, Callum, is just back from a visit to South Sudan as part of the ministry of Comfort International (formerly Comfort Rwanda). He saw some unimaginable poverty especially among some children he visited in a village outside the capital, Juma. It was decided, along with the carers of the children, to try and sponsor 25-30 of these children. The sponsorship would cost £25/month and cover food, some clothing and school fees. If anyone is interested in this project please speak to me, Ian Henderson, or contact Callum directly on 07542 731983.

More information can be found on the [Comfort International Facebook site](#), where you might catch a video clip of Callum on the "Community" link. Thank you for your interest!



**comfort international**  
a little can change a life

Ian Henderson

# tearfund

## Thank You emails to our Tearfund Coordinator, Jim Tennant



Dear Jim,

I thought I'd send you a quick update so you can tell your congregation how much money the Big Quiz Night has raised.

I'm so pleased to share with you that as of today, 26,384 people at over 560 quiz nights have raised a magnificent £188,400! I can officially tell you that we've beaten last year's total.

This amount is going to make a lasting impact on the lives of people like Martha, who was left with nothing after having to flee conflict. It will go towards helping to restore their hope for the future.

Thank you.

Finally, we'd love to stay in touch with you. That way we can let you know about next year's exciting Big Quiz Night plans, as well as other fundraising opportunities and news from the team.

Andy Robertson  
Community Fundraising Manager  
17/12/2019

Hello one and all,

I just wanted to get in touch before Christmas to thank you all so much for hosting Tearfund Scotland this December for our annual Christmas Concert.

I am delighted to say that the tour was a great success!

Over the 11 dates, approximately 3,000 people came out to these events, and 71 people have become regular Tearfund supporters. The Tearfund Scotland team, and myself, are very encouraged by this, and we know that this support will go a long way to helping people in the worst circumstances of poverty.

This would not have been possible without all your help and support. I feel truly blessed to have partnered with you for these events. The work that you all put in (and with the help of your church volunteers too) has helped to make some fantastic Christmas events.

I'm also very thankful for the generosity you have shown to Tearfund, both financially and in time and effort. I really do hope that this has benefitted your church, congregation, and community.

So again on behalf of a very tired events coordinator who needs a good few weeks of sleep, and the wider team here at Tearfund Scotland, I just want to say a massive THANK YOU and I hope you have a very merry Christmas when it comes.

God Bless,  
Erica  
23/12/2019

## Treasurer's Report - December 2019

<b>Budgeted Expenditure for 2019</b>		£77,812
<b>Budget for January-December</b>		<b>£77,812</b>
Income from offerings to date	£38,138	
Gift Aided offerings tax reclaimed to date	£8,996	
Investment income to date	£2,182	
		<u>£49,315</u>
<b>Voluntary income</b>		<b>-£28,497</b>
Income from use of premises	£14,590	
Other donations to date	£10,798	
Legacies to date	£1,000	
		<u>£26,387</u>
<b>Income to date, against budget</b>		<b>-£2,109</b>

Actual General Fund income to date: £75,663

Actual General Fund expenditure to date: £80,226

**Income to date: -£4,563**

Average weekly offerings compared: **£771** (January-December 2018)

**£733** (January-December 2019)



# Discover the Organ

Organ Discovery Event led by

**JAMES PARSONS**

Concert Organist

one of the UK's foremost organ teachers  
and animateurs

Peebles Old Parish Church

Saturday 22 February 2020

### Programme

10.30-12.00 Morning session aimed at children of 9 years and over

15.00-16.00 Concert of Organ Music by James Parsons

For further information and to book a place please follow this [link](#)

or contact Sarah Brown

Tel 07597 394059

[sarahlbrown@mail.com](mailto:sarahlbrown@mail.com)



Generously supported by [The Edinburgh Society of Organists](#)



## The Border Pilgrims

(conducted by Marion Dodd)

are doing a concert tour of the Holy Land in March 2020

*To raise money for  
'Sounds in Palestine',  
affiliated to Musi-  
cians without Borders  
- social empowerment  
through music for  
children in Palestine.*



*Music changes  
the children's  
lives...  
helps them grow.'*

Two preliminary concerts of our programmes:  
**Sunday 23rd Feb, 6.30 pm, St Andrew's Church, Kelso**  
**Friday 28th Feb, 7.00 pm, Holy Trinity Church, Melrose**

Tickets - £10 at the door

To give a donation to the charity, please visit

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/borderpilgrims](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/borderpilgrims)

The Border Pilgrims are a group of 16 singers, most of whom live in the Scottish Borders. Their Holy Land tour in March will raise money for 'Musicians without Borders,' a charity with the motto, 'War divides, music connects'. In Israel, it works with 'Sounds of Palestine', a community music programme inspired and based on the concept of El Sistema in Venezuela. It uses music education as a medium to achieve long term social change for the children and families involved.

The Border Pilgrims will be doing 4 concerts - Jerusalem, Nazareth, Tiberias and Bethlehem - in March, and the two Border concerts will help raise awareness over here, and hopefully some money to add to the cause.