

The Kirk Quair

October – November 2018



St Andrew's in the Grange

Church of Scotland

A Different Kind of Wee Word

Many of you will know that our beloved “Ed”, Bill, (always be a bit wary of anyone who goes under two names) has gone off for a short spell to have his spark plugs replaced, or whatever it is that they do when your engine is misfiring.

It's at time like this that one really appreciates the time, the effort and the love which Bill has given to ensuring that the *Kirk Quair* is such a valued part of our Church life. Bill, we thank you for that and hope that you will not feel that we have let the side down too badly with this very truncated version, which is really designed only to try to ensure that the congregation is kept as up to date as possible with what is going on in and around St Andrew's in the Grange.

Hopefully, all the essentials have been included, and hopefully, also, you will take the time to read our centre page spread containing news which we have all been waiting to hear.

As we move into the final quarter of 2018 (whatever happened to the first three – where on earth did they go?), we can do so with renewed optimism and a sense of good times ahead to look forward to.

In the meantime, get well soon, Bill. We look forward to seeing you home again.

Post script to the above

Someone told “Ed” that I had usurped his chair and was intent upon publishing a miserable 8 page edition of the Kirk Quair. We gather that, in a style totally befitting the contributor of the article on page 8, he immediately leapt from his sickbed and promptly sent me enough material for another 4 pages. Bless you, Bill, you have saved the day!

StAG News



Herm

Oh dear, weeks of lovely sunshine, buckets and spades at the ready and what did it do? It rained so for the first time our annual outing to Herm had to be cancelled at the last minute and the Minister had to revamp his service quite literally at the 11th hour. By all accounts he did a great job and there was a good turnout. The other piece of good news was that Trident were kind enough to refund the tickets. How encouraging is that in this day and age?



Beach Cleaning

Our beach cleaning efforts also fell victim to the vagaries of the British climate and, instead of three gorgeous afternoons on the beach doing our bit for the planet, the first session was cut short by pouring rain, the second was reasonable, but the third and final session had to be postponed for a week. Nevertheless, there was a good turnout on each occasion and it was encouraging that the amount of litter collected had diminished notably by the end. Well done cleaners.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness

Thus read the banner headline on page 12 of the Guernsey Press and Journal on Saturday 11th August. The very positive five column spread that followed described our beach cleaning initiative in detail with pictures of the team hard at work, Alistair's daughter with a bag of plastic retrieved from the beach and the group, ranging in age from 8 to 80, with their litter pickers and bin bags, well wrapped up against the elements!

What amazing publicity for our congregation and, not only our service to the community in which we live, but also to the wider world.

Not long after this article appeared in our local paper, there was a much shorter piece in the Daily Telegraph about a Church of Scotland congregation on an idyllic island with amazing beaches seeking a Minister. Alas, on closer reading, it was not about St Andrews in the Grange, although it might well have been, but the island of Tiree!



BEYOND OUR SHORES

We are like the Thai boys trapped in the cave

The dramatic rescue of the boys trapped deep inside a cave in Thailand has been an inspiration around the world. That all of them could be brought out alive seemed almost beyond belief, yet because of the bravery, skill and ingenuity of their rescuers it happened. One news reporter spoke about their ‘salvation’, and it certainly is a remarkable illustration of the salvation that Jesus offers us.

The boys were trapped deep underground in the darkness of a flooded cave for nine days, with no way of escape and no hope of saving them-selves. They were lost and cut off from the outside world, separated from their families and friends. What a picture of the condition we find ourselves in when we are separated from God because of our sin.

Help for the boys came in the form of experienced divers and skilled cave rescue teams, not just from within Thailand, but from all around the world. These brave people left what they were doing to save the boys, exposing themselves to danger and harm, and risking their lives to rescue the boys. Indeed, one Thai navy diver lost his life in the process. They entered the dark world of the cave system to search for the boys and bring them back home. It reminds us that Christ left the glory of heaven and entered the darkness of our world in order to rescue us from our spiritual plight. He took on human form and became one of us so that He might save us – and of course, it cost Him His life.

What was most striking was that, having found the boys, the rescuers then had to carefully escort each one through the floodwaters of the cave system. One diver went in front, and another came behind, while the boys had to trust completely in their rescuers during the arduous exit from the caves. Only in this way could they be saved.

It reminds us again of the way in which Jesus, in bringing many sons to glory (to use a phrase from Hebrews 2:10) gently and carefully leads each one of us from the dark place of life without God into the light of His presence. He asks us to trust Him as He leads the way, and to believe that He is able to save us completely, and for all time.

The book of Hebrews uses an unusual title for Jesus. It calls Him the ‘pioneer’ of our salvation (2:10). The word ‘pioneer’ suggests one who goes before us, making a way possible where there was no way before. It suggests an adventurer, one is brave and bold and willing to risk everything to save others. In a very real sense the people who rescued the boys were pioneers, because such a rescue had never been attempted before. It was daring, dramatic and heroic. So too was the rescue mission of Jesus that brought Him into our world and took Him to the darkness of the cross at Calvary. It is what pioneers do; lay down their lives for others. It’s what Jesus did for each one of us.



Crossreach Christmas Cards



As this is being typed, the sun is shining out of a clear blue sky, so it’s hard to believe, but Christmas is coming, and the proof is that Crossreach are now accepting orders for their 2018 range of Christmas cards and 2019 calendars. For further details, please contact Audrey McIntosh.

Rev Graeme Beebee

It’s also hard to believe that it’s 15 years since Graeme became our Minister, but our “new young Minister” as we used to call him to his despair, celebrates the 25th anniversary of his Ordination as a Minister of the Church of Scotland towards the end of October and we send our warmest congratulations and best wishes to him.

Hot Vacancy News

If you were in Church on the morning of Sunday 30 September you will already know that the Nominating Committee has invited Rev Dr David Coulter to preach as Sole Nominee for the vacant post of Minister of Guernsey: St Andrew's in the Grange, and that David has kindly accepted this invitation. You may also have heard whispers on the good old Guernsey Grapevine, but you can now really believe that the news is true!

Rev Coulter is already well known to many in the congregation because he has for very many years been a member of the Presbytery of England and has visited St Andrew's in the Grange on several occasions in one or other official roles on behalf of Presbytery.

The procedure now is that Rev Coulter will preach in St Andrew's in the Grange which we anticipate will happen on Sunday 18 November 2018 and that, at the conclusion of that Service, a vote will be held to establish whether the congregation wishes him to be our next Minister. **It is important that as many as possible do vote, but please note that only those on the congregation's Electoral Roll may do so. If you are in any doubt about your entitlement to vote, please check with the Session Clerk, Dr Hilary Boyle.**

If the vote is in favour of Rev Coulter, it will then be for him to decide whether to accept the invitation. If he does, members of the congregation will, over the course of the following two weeks be invited to sign a document known as the Call which will then be submitted to Presbytery as evidence of the congregation's decision. Please understand that, even if Presbytery does sustain such a Call, it is likely for various practical reasons to be 2-3 months into 2019 before Rev Coulter can be inducted as Minister of Guernsey: St Andrew's in the Grange.

Please do make every effort to be in Church when Rev Coulter preaches. A brief summary of his career to date appears on the opposite page.

Rev Dr David G Coulter CB OStJ QHC CF



David Coulter was ordained as a Minister of the Church of Scotland in 1989, having gained a BA in Economics and Social history at Queen's University in Belfast and a BD at St Andrews University, and having previously served as an Officer with the Royal Irish Rangers.

Most of his career subsequently has been spent as a member of the Royal Army Chaplains' Department, during which time he has served in Germany, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Canada and the Gulf, and he has had operational tours in North Belfast, South Armagh and the First Gulf War. In the course of this he has of course been called upon to exercise great pastoral skills in some exceptionally challenging circumstances.

A distinguished career has led ultimately to promotion to the rank of Chaplain General to Her Majesty's Land Forces (only the second Church of Scotland Minister to hold this, the most senior position for an Army Chaplain) and the award in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2016 of a CB (Companion to the Order of the Bath). David has also been an Honorary Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen since 2007.

In Presbytery, David has acted both as Chair of the Business Committee and as Moderator.

David is married to Grace, and they have two sons in their mid twenties. He lists his interests as being Nordic walking, St John Ambulance, and ecclesiastical and military history.

CLOSER TO HOME

THE WAY I SEE IT: What is 'health'?

This summer we've been celebrating the 70th anniversary of the National Health Service. I can recall, years ago, my GP pointing out that it was the National *Health* Service, not the National *Illness* Service. This was when our local practice changed its name from 'Medical Centre' to 'Health Centre'. It seems a pedantic point, but in fact it touches on a huge issue. What is 'health'?

In the Gospels the healing miracles of Jesus are sometimes called 'cures' and sometimes 'making well or whole'. These are attempts by the translators to convey a difference in the nature of what had happened. People who had 'conditions' (blind, lame, infirm) were 'cured'. Those with serious illness were often said to be 'made whole'. When Jesus was faced with ten people with leprosy, nine were described as 'cured' and one – the Samaritan who came back in gratitude, was 'made whole' (Luke 17:19). So was the woman with a long-term haemorrhage, who touched the hem of the Lord's garment: 'your faith has made you whole (well)' (Luke 8:45).

This suggests that 'health' is more than being free of sickness. Indeed, it seems to imply that health relates to *our whole life experience* – to be truly healthy, we are 'well' mentally, physically and spiritually. I think I would go further: I have ministered to people who were desperately ill but in the deepest sense of the word radiantly 'healthy'. That may sound odd, but just as 'peace' is not simply the absence of war, so 'health' is not just the absence of illness. I suspect many of those working in the NHS know the truth of that.

Church Register

Weddings	4 August 2018	Helen Jane Streeting to Mark Anthony Munson
	10 August 2018	Maria le Page to Ian Eggo
Deaths	5 August 2018	Beryl Doris Anderson
	3 September 2018	Hugh Carmichael

Smile Lines

Hear Our Prayer?

A five-year-old said grace at family dinner one night. 'Dear God, thank you for these pancakes...'

When he concluded, his parents asked him why he thanked God for pancakes when they were eating chicken.

Back came the response, 'I wanted to see if He was paying attention tonight.'

The Hot Heckler

Tony Benn, who used a hearing aid, recalled a meeting in a church hall on a terribly hot day. 'There was a heckler who kept interrupting. Eventually I tackled him and said: "If you want a separate meeting of your own, fine, go away and have it. Stop trying to wreck ours." When he intervened a fourth time, I caught what he was actually saying, which was "Could somebody please open a window?"'

How to Get to Heaven

The teacher asked her Sunday School class: 'If sold my house and my car, had a big car boot sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into Heaven?'

'No!' the children all answered. 'If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the grass, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into Heaven?'

Again, the answer was, 'No!'

'Well,' she continued, 'then how can I get into Heaven?'

A five-year-old boy shouted out, 'You've got to be dead first.'

This poster can be found in many French Churches. The translation is: "By entering this church it may be possible that you hear 'The call of God'. However, it is less probable that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."





Church Calendar



October

- Sunday 7** 9.30 Wee Service
10.30 Morning Worship with Holy Communion
- Sunday 14** 9.30 Wee Service
10.30 Morning Worship led by the Worship Team
- Sunday 21** 9.30 Wee Service
10.30 Morning Worship led by the Worship Team
- Sunday 28** 10.30 Morning Worship
(Please note that British Summer Time ends and
clocks go back at 2 am this morning)

November

- Sunday 4** 10.30 Morning Worship with Holy Communion
- Tuesday 6** 19.30 Kirk Session meets in the Upper Room
- Sunday 11** 10.50 Remembrance Sunday (All age Service)
- Sunday 18** 10.30 Morning Worship led by Rev David Coulter
11.30 Election re Sole Nominee
- Tuesday 20** 19.30 Congregational Board meets in the Upper Room
- Sunday 25** 9.30 Wee Service
10.30 Morning Worship
18.30 Evening Service

December

- Sunday 2** 9.30 Wee Service / CoSY Practice
10.30 Advent Sunday with Holy Communion
15.00 Bereavement Service
- Sunday 9** 9.30 Wee Service / CoSY Practice
10.30 Morning Worship
- Sunday 16** 10.30 CoSY Nativity Service and Tree Gifts
Congregational Christmas Lunch



I Can't Manage That Date!!!

It happens to us all from time to time, so please don't worry if you can't manage a date on one of the Rotas. All we would ask is that you please try to find someone to swap with and don't just leave the spot unfilled. Thank you for all your help.

Creche Rota

The current rota can be found on the notice board in the hall and is replaced at quarterly intervals. Amanda asks you to sign up for dates you wish to cover and wants to thank you all for your support. If you have any questions regarding "Safeguarding" issues, please have a word with George Taylor.

Flower Rota

October – December

- October**
- 14 Niall de Kooker
- 21 Rachel Lucas
- 28 Sue de Carteret
- November**
- 4 Carolyn Oxburgh
- 11 Remembrance
- 18 Fiona Willis
- 25 Karen Girard
- December**
- 2 Liz Bell
- 9 Christmas

Monthly Coordinator:

- October** Rachel Lucas
- November** Fiona Willis
- December** Patricia McIntyre



Door Duty

- October**
- 14 Paul Riley & Edith Mather
- 21 Hunter Adam & Elizabeth Jackson
- 28 Ethel Robb & Patricia McIntyre
- November**
- 4 Beth Wright & Rachel Lucas
- 11 Avril Hurley & Christine Vaudin
- 18 George & Charmaine Taylor
- 25 Steven & Amanda Jones
- December**
- 2 David & Christina Hodgetts
- 9 Dick & Elizabeth McIntosh



Sunday Readers

- Elizabeth McIntosh
- Amanda Jones
- David Hodgetts
- Iain Timms
- Peter Harwood
- Ethel Robb
- Patricia McIntyre
- Sarah Wallis
- Charmaine Taylor

Church of Scotland St Andrew's in the Grange, Guernsey

The Locum Minister

Rev Alistair Cumming

The Manse

Le Villocq, Castel GY5 7SB

Tel 257345

Website: cofsguernsey.org.gg

Email: acumming@churchofscotland.org.uk

Sunday service is held at 10.30 am each week with a creche available for the very young. Details of activities for older children are given in the Church Calendar. The service on the last Sunday of each month is usually All Age Worship.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month except at Eastertime when it is on Easter Sunday.

Car parking is available, by courtesy of the States of Guernsey at the Lukis House car park, 80 yards down the Grange and also at Healthspan (windscreen stickers must be displayed at the latter). Both car parks are on the same side of the road as the Church .

Session Clerk	Dr Hilary Boyle theboyles@cwgsy.net	Tel 246153
Clerk to the Board	Mr John Videlo	Tel 724423
Treasurer	Mr Steven Jones	Tel 720547
Freewill Offering	Mr David Lewis-Jones	Tel 726561
Safeguarding Officer	Mr George Taylor	Tel 07781 100132
Church Organist	Dr Alan Boyle	Tel 246153
Creche Organiser	Mrs Amanda Jones amandajones.gsy@gmail.com	Tel 720547
Flower List Organiser	Mrs Patricia McIntyre	
Church Magazine	Dr Bill Harcus billharcus@cwgsy.net	Tel 263688