

# Greenbank Connections



Dec 2016 / Jan 2017

Issue 657

Scottish Charity SCO11325



*Christian worship in Mozambique (see page 5)*

**Greenbank Parish Church, Edinburgh**



Online version: [www.greenbankchurch.org/about/the-newsletter/](http://www.greenbankchurch.org/about/the-newsletter/)

## Contents

Minister's Letter	2
Pulpit Diary	3
Burns Supper	4
Greenbank Work Party	4
Visit To Mozambique	5
News from the Coffee Group	6
The Guild	6
Carols in Greenbank Village	6
Friendship Club	7
Christmas Party for Pathfinders and Explorers	7
SLA Book Café	7
Eco Column	8
YACHT at Christmas	8
4th Braid Scout Group	9
The Open Door	9
Christian Aid Coffee Morning	10
Gift Service – 18th December	11
Retiral of Douglas Allan	11
Greetings from Princeton	11
Merry Xmas!	12
Congregational Register	14
Coffee Rota	14
Flower Rota	14
Crèche Rota	14
Welcome Teams	15
Greenbank Calendar	16
Office & Ministerial Contacts	16
Deadlines for next issue	16

## Minister's Letter

### Dear Friends



A few weeks ago I had the privilege of leading the Guild in their discussion topic – *Go in joy*. It was in the course of that discussion that I was reminded of some words of C S Lewis who spoke about being “surprised by joy”. Those words “surprised by joy” were an allusion to the poem *Surprised by Joy – Impatient as the Wind*, written by William Wordsworth. In that poem Wordsworth recalls an incident when for a moment he forgot the death of his beloved daughter. Later the grief returned in its fullest intensity accompanied by guilt at his failure to remember even for a few moments the loss of his precious daughter. Those coping with bereavement will be all too aware of that swing of emotions that is experienced as we come to terms with loss. But C S Lewis took those words “surprised by joy” and used them to describe his journey from atheism to faith. And he wrote of joy as being like a signpost pointing the way to Christ. There are many references to joy in the bible and they often appear when least expected. This is certainly the case in the Christmas story.

A young unmarried girl receives a visit from an angel, who tells her she is pregnant. What is her reaction? She goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth, to find out if the angel's words are true. When she discovers they are she is filled with joy – breaking into a song of praise.

An angel appears with tidings of joy to a gang of illiterate shepherds living rough in the fields minding their sheep. And they become the first people to welcome a newborn child into the world.

Some sophisticated men of wisdom and wealth follow a star for miles searching for a new king to serve. In a humble home they come face to face with a child and his mother and are overwhelmed with joy.

Mary, the shepherds, the wise men – all of them are surprised by joy. Joy comes unexpectedly into their lives. And in each case what awakens this joy is a new awareness of the presence of God in this world. As the Jesuit priest Pierre Teilhard de Chardin put it “Joy is the infallible sign of the Presence of God”.

At Christmas the Church rejoices. She celebrates not just a story from the pages of Scripture but the belief that today, still, God enters a broken world in the person of Jesus to offer new life and hope. Sometimes for different reasons that joy may be muted. Yet still it continues to break through – a sign of the presence of God with us in the midst of all life.

Through all our Christmas services and activities we seek to offer signposts that point to God's presence. And I hope this Christmas you will experience some of the joy this presence brings.

With warmest wishes for Christmas and every blessing for 2017.

**Alison I Swindells**  
Parish Minister

## Pulpit Diary

### **Dec 2 Friday**

7.30pm Pre-Communion service

### **Dec 4 Second Sunday in Advent**

9.00am Communion

10.30am Communion (Young Church meet as usual)

3.00pm Communion (Braid Room)

### **Dec 11 Third Sunday in Advent**

10.30am Lessons and Carols (Young Church – end of first term)

3.00pm Blue Christmas Service (for those coping with loss)

### **Dec 18 Fourth Sunday in Advent**

10.30am All Age Gift Service

4.00pm Carol Party

### **Dec 24 Christmas Eve**

7.00pm All Age Service

11.30pm Watchnight Service (Carol singing from 11.10pm)

### **Dec 25 Christmas Day**

10.30am All Age Service

## **2017**

### **Jan 1**

10.30am Morning Worship

### **Jan 8**

10.30am Morning Worship (Young Church – start of second term)

### **Jan 15**

10.30am Morning Worship

### **Jan 22**

10.30am Morning Worship

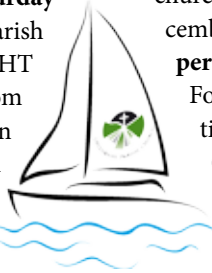
### **Jan 29**

10.30am Morning Worship followed by informal communion

## Burns Supper – in aid of the YACHT Campaign

Join us for a **Burns Supper on Saturday 28th January 2017** at Greenbank Parish Church and help support the YACHT Campaign. Drinks reception from 7pm before a 3-course sit-down dinner cooked by Chris and Rachael Rowley of Ballintaggart Farm.

With after-dinner entertainment, a fabulous auction and fund-raising prizes we hope this will be a very special evening of fellowship and fun. Tickets are available after the 10.30am



church services in November and December; **£350 for a table of 10 or £35 per head.**

For more information and to buy tickets please contact Kirsten Pink (Email [kirstenpink@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kirstenpink@hotmail.co.uk)).

P.S. If you would like to donate a prize for our auction we would be most grateful. Contact Jim Young (Email [jimgillyyoung@btinternet.com](mailto:jimgillyyoung@btinternet.com)).

## Greenbank Work Party

Once again I can report that the Work Party has had a successful year. We always manage to surprise ourselves with the sheer volume of articles we have knitted. We hope that the charities we donate to will be happy.

Hats will be going to the Night Shelters run by Bethany and volunteers from churches including Greenbank. Jumpers and cardigans of all sizes and cot blankets will go to the Edinburgh Clothing Store and Children 1st. Little hats go to Simpsons for newborn babies. Twiddle Muffs and knee rugs will go to the Open Door's *Saturday Club* which helps people with Dementia. Everything will be delivered in time for Christmas.

We want to take the opportunity to thank the members of the congregation who have knitted hats and squares, and those who have generously donated DK Machine Washable Yarn which has been a great help. Our final meeting of 2016 will be on **Thursday 15th December at 2.30pm** in the

Hermitage Room, and we start again on **12th January 2017**. Why not join us? You will be very welcome.

**Anne Oxbrow**



*Twiddle muffs*

## Session Clerk's Visit To Mozambique, September 2016

### *Church, Challenges And Chickens*

In September I visited the Ecumenical Church of Christ in Mozambique (IECM) in my role as Convener of the Church of Scotland's Africa and Caribbean Committee. The main purpose was to review a three way partnership amongst the Church of Scotland, the IECM and the Synod of Blantyre in Malawi. I also attended the IECM's General Assembly. I stayed in Nampula, a city of about half a million people in the north west of the country. I went with one other person from Scotland and three from Blantyre.

The **Church** has had links with Scotland off and on since 1894 when Blantyre Synod (then in Nyasaland) set up mission stations. Recently, Blantyre Synod and the

Church of Scotland decided to help the church in Mozambique once again through partnership.

The **Challenges**. The IECM is a small denomination mainly in the north west of Mozambique. It is very short of money and of trained ministers to provide sound biblical knowledge to a scattered membership. Ministers do not always get paid and have to take other jobs to earn a living.

My time was filled with meetings of the partnership and at the General Assembly. I had been asked to address the Assembly on their theme of "Rebuilding the church with living stones" based on texts from Nehemiah and 1 Peter. They had wanted an hour but fortunately the need for translation into Portuguese halved that!

So where do the **chickens** come in? One day we visited a rural church to see a partly built manse that they want us to complete. We were received very warmly by about 40 people. They presented us with bananas, garlic, cloth, a cake and a live chicken each! It was a humbling experience showing a spirit of generosity towards visitors. As we left we loaded the chickens, and our other gifts, into the truck (we ate the cake). Later we gave a lift to three men travelling to the Assembly. They went in the back of the truck with the chickens! I did not see the birds after we got back to Nampula. Maybe they went into the pot for the Assembly lunches. I hope to go back in 18 months or so to see how they are getting on and we expect to welcome some of their leaders here soon.



*A sample of the Work Party hats*

**Valerie Macniven**

## News from the Coffee Group

Thank you all for your donations given after the 10.30am Service, when collecting your coffee and tea for a time of fellowship. After expenses I have been delighted to write cheques for a total of £1,000: £500 to *Scottish Love in Action* and £500 towards the catering costs for the *Night Shelter* run by the Help the Homeless Group. In the summer a coffee filter machine was purchased and I hope you are enjoying the “real coffee” it makes. I am grateful once again to Pauline Walker and Fiona Grant for all their support and assistance on Sunday mornings and to all the teams of members, who have taken their turns to serve and tidy up each Sunday.

Isobel Thom



The next collection dates are Sundays **22nd January 2017** and **19th March 2017**, at the Sunday Service (table set up in Main Hall). Thanks to everyone who has responded to my request for donations to this worthwhile cause. The need for good quality donations to the starter pack scheme is as great as ever. A full list of the items wanted for the starter packs was in September's *Connections*. Pick up a leaflet from me, see [www.fresh-startweb.org.uk](http://www.fresh-startweb.org.uk) or telephone 0131 476 7741 for more information about the work of Fresh Start.

Alison Ambler

## The Guild

At our first meeting in November we enjoyed an entertaining resumé of the first 100 years of the Usher Hall. By the time this edition is published, we shall also have learnt more about the work of *Feed the Minds* in assisting women in Kenya to combat FGM and will have held a fundraising *Beetle Drive* to support that project under the auspices of the National Guild. We shall be visiting *St Helena* on **6th December** via an illustrated talk and holding our Christmas Party the following week.



In January there will be a coffee morning on the 3rd at 10.30am in the Main Hall. We shall be joining with Fairmilehead Guild in the afternoon on **17th January at 2.30pm** in our Lower Hall. With the exception of the Christmas Party all our meetings are open ones to which anyone with an interest in the topic is welcome.

Kathleen Patrick

## Come and Sing Carols in Greenbank Village

Do you like singing carols in the street? We are looking for singers of all ages and abilities to sing carols in Greenbank Village on the evening of **Monday 19th December**. We will start from the Littlejohn Avenue entrance to the village at **6.30 pm**. Please join us – we can't guarantee the weather, but you will get a warm welcome & refreshments afterwards kindly provided by Julia and Richard Dunbar.

Neil Ross

## Friendship Club

December, the Christmas month, will begin on the **7th** with Kathleen's seasonal musical selection, then on the **14th** at our Christmas Party, Jean Eggar will bring her musical talents to entertain while encouraging us to join in for Christmas songs and carols.

We start the New Year on **11th January** with Kathleen as she takes us to *Ascension Island*, then on the **18th** she will give us her choice of *String Gems*. Though we will not have Robert Burns as our theme on the **25th**, Sir Geoffrey Palmer's knowledge of *Scotch Whisky* should make a very suitable substitute.

Alastair Hunter, a Greenbank member, will on **8th February** enlighten us about *Sundials Old and New* – appropriate as the days

will be lengthening by then!

Please join us at any meeting if the topic interests you. A charge of £2 is made for non-members.

**Val Smart**

## Christmas Party for Pathfinders and Explorers

All the children in Pathfinders and Explorers are invited to a Christmas Party on **Saturday 17th December**, 2.30pm–4.30pm, in the Church Halls. They're welcome to each bring a friend along too if they'd like!

**Please reply to leaders as soon as possible.**

**Janet Ferguson**



CARING FOR CHILDREN IN INDIA



### Book Café

for Scottish Love in Action

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February  
10.30-2.30

George Watson's College,  
69-71 Colinton Road

Get a warm glow  
browsing books for sale  
with soup and coffee

Tickets £7.50 (Children £5, under 7 free)

To include 2 books, soup and bread  
(coffee or tea extra)  
Parking available

Tickets available at  
[www.sla-india.org/product/book-cafe](http://www.sla-india.org/product/book-cafe)  
or email [slabookcafe@gmail.com](mailto:slabookcafe@gmail.com)  
or on the door

## Eco Column

This is our third commentary on our preparations to become an eco congregation here at Greenbank. We are about to register for the process, but have been looking over the congregational check list suggested as a preliminary step. This tells us how we are placed at present, and reveals areas for more action. You can look at this yourselves on the eco congregation website

[www.ecocongregationscotland.org/](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/)

and have a think about how your own households measure up to the eco agenda, from a Christian and faith perspective.

The check list covers a number of topics – starting with theology and worship. It asks if we connect effectively with God’s gift of creation in worship and praise. While we are well on the way to addressing this area in worship, this is still a developing area. We have not, for example, held an outdoor service. The same can be said of our children’s work and youth engagement, and all age education.

In respect of church property, we are perhaps well down the right route. We have an established ‘green group’, and have been working for some time on better insulation, energy saving in heating and lighting and building management. Other areas to develop though are water saving, properly assessing our carbon footprint and a shift to renewable energy consumption.

Church management and purchasing policy is also assessed in the check list. For example, we are well established as a fair trade church, but we could be making more progress on recycling and waste minimisation, and perhaps reviewing more closely our purchasing policy, by supporting local suppliers and buying in more environmentally friendly materials.

In the matter of church land, our approach to date has been ease of management, but we could develop more wild life friendly planting, and the nurturing of native species which would be a food source for birds and animals. Planters in the vicinity of the church and hall doorways could also play a part in this, as well as greening our entrances.

We are also expected to encourage people attending church to green their lifestyles. Actions here could include more walking and cycling to church, or car sharing, and publishing ‘green tips’ on a regular basis in this magazine. Locally, we could extend our support for environmental initiatives in the green spaces in the church neighbourhood. Then there are the connected overseas concerns – climate change affects the world’s poor more profoundly than our society at present. We have a strong tradition of active support for world development issues, and Christian Aid in particular, but we could do more in aligning with campaigns and identifying with particular projects.

The range and challenge of this work is considerable, and we need to think more widely about the issues, and take personal and collective action to tackle climate change at every level – in prayer, giving, faith based action and our local stewardship of the earth’s resources.

**David Jack**

## YACHT at Christmas

If you buy any of your Christmas presents on-line, please take away one of the yellow cards entitled “Giving through on-line shopping” available in the pews, and follow the instructions. You will be making a donation to the YACHT campaign whenever you make an on-line purchase.



## 4th Braid Scout Group & Greenbank Explorers

Due to changed circumstances ***we urgently require an auditor now*** (who cannot be a member of our committee) to audit the Group accounts for the year ended April 2016. We are a registered Charity and audited accounts require to be submitted to both the Scout Association and the Office of the Scottish Charity Register (OSCR). The requirements of OSCR are a requisite ability and practical experience and it suggests persons with previous or current banking, accounting, legal or secretarial experience. If you can assist I would be very pleased to hear from you.

Two of our assistant scout leaders have moved away from the area with work. We

have a new Scout Leader and a strong team of five assistant leaders but to allow a rota when required, ***we are looking for two male or female replacements***. This is a “young” team aged from 20 to 65 who carry out a variety of roles that suits their preferences and could, for example, be Hall-based only (not everyone wants to do camps or outdoor treks). If you are interested or can recommend anyone please contact Niall Morrison, Scout Leader, or Duncan Macniven, Assistant Scout Leader, or Stuart Sanders, Hon Secretary to discuss.

**Stuart Sanders, Hon Secretary**  
([sandersstuart@aol.com](mailto:sandersstuart@aol.com))

## To All Supporters of The Open Door

A few weeks ago I asked for your support in an on-line competition for funding from the Aviva Community Fund. Our supporters have responded extremely well and at the moment we are probably in about the top third of competing organisations.

We need to improve on that to be sure of getting into the final and having our application considered by the judging panel. So I'm sending this reminder urging those of you who have not already voted to do so right away, at

<https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/16-1161>

and to encourage your family and friends to do so as well. Every vote is important.



Please forgive me if you've already voted; I have no way of knowing.

To remind you of the details – we are competing against other organisations for a grant from Aviva. We've asked for £6,400 to cover

transport for our Thursday Club for a year. Thursday Club members are sufficiently frail not to be able to get to The Open Door unaided, and we use the South Edinburgh Action Group mini-bus to transport them in and back.

Voting closes on 18th November, so please, if you haven't already, do it now.

Very many thanks

**Dolina Gorman, Fundraiser**  
**The Open Door, 420 Morningside Road**  
([www.theopendoor-morningside.org.uk](http://www.theopendoor-morningside.org.uk))



# Coffee Morning

Saturday 3rd Dec 2016

10am-12noon

at Morningside Parish Church Hall  
(Foot of Braid Road)



Admission £3 (children £1) includes: Coffee, Tea, or Juice, Christmas Pies & Shortbread.

10:45am Aileen Paterson reads a story



## Stalls:

- Home Baking and jam
- Books
- Fairtrade
- Phoenix Cards
- Christmas Cards
- Usborne Books



The Church at New Vernon



David and Margot Fergusson with the Stone Family

## Retiral of Douglas Allan from the Kirk Session

Douglas Allan has retired from the Kirk Session. Douglas was admitted to the eldership in Greenbank in 1980 having been ordained in New Kilpatrick Church Bearsden in 1978. He was soon the District elder for District 32. Later, and until now, he looked after District 44 and, more recently, also District 69B. He has served on several of our Committees, currently on Roll Revision, and in the early 1980s was convener of Christian Education. He has also served on the Congregational Board.

Douglas was Session Clerk for the 10 years from 1985 to 1995, during the ministry of the Rev Ian Scott. He had previously been Clerk to the Vacancy Committee. Douglas has also served the national Church as Chair of the Judicial Commission and member of the Board of Practice and Procedure. At its meeting on 8th November the Kirk Session thanked Douglas for these many years of dedicated service and for his wisdom, sound guidance and unfailing kindness.

Valerie Macniven



## Greetings from Princeton!

Yesterday afternoon we had the pleasure of attending Bill's induction at New Vernon. It was a lovely sunny fall afternoon and took us about an hour to drive north from Princeton. The New Vernon area is very attractively rural and prosperous, with many people commuting into New York or working in 'tech' jobs on the outskirts of the city. The service was lovely, with Bill's Dad giving the *Charge to the Newly Installed Pastor*; David gave the *Call to Worship* at the beginning and explained the link with Greenbank. One of the members of the congregation is a professor of music at Rutgers University and a concert pianist, so the music was wonderful. The congregation are so delighted to have Bill, Hayley, Ewan and Maisie – as they should be!

Margot Fergusson

## Gift Service – Sunday 18th December

Each Christmas, our children and young people bring presents to the Gift Service. These are given to children in difficult circumstances in our own city and, sadly, the need is great.



We'd love to have a large collection of gifts to pass on and so we're asking everyone to join in! We know the presents are appreciated.

**Please bring any gifts to the Service, preferably in a gift bag, with a detachable tag saying whether the gift is suitable for a boy or girl and what age/s it is suitable for. The age range requested is from 3 up to 14.**

Many thanks,

Janet Fergusson  
on behalf of the YES Group

## Merry Xmas!

Merry Xmas, everyone!

Lots of Christians admonish us for using 'Xmas' instead of 'Christmas' – "it's taking Christ out of Christmas", they tell us.

But let's look at that word 'Xmas'.

Firstly, do you remember this phrase from your algebra lessons: 'Let 'x' represent the unknown number...?' Well, it's about another unknown 'x' that I want us to think about — the unknown 'x' of Xmas. Sadly there are lots of people for whom Xmas remains an unknown — they have work Xmas lunches, they go to Xmas parties with family and friends, they wrap up and give Xmas presents and they enjoy Xmas Day meals. Some may have romantic notions about a birth in a stable, about shepherds and wise men, about a star and angel choirs, while others are just not interested. So they may never know about God moving into our neighbourhood and getting involved in our world. They may never know about God's care, concern and compassion for us, so deep that he came looking for us. They may never know about Jesus identifying with us and becoming one of us so that we may become like him. On one level, it's heart-breaking. On another, it's challenging. What are we going to do to bring family, neighbours, colleagues and friends from not knowing to knowing the thrilling news of the Incarnation?

Secondly, 'x' is a sign of Love and the 'x' in Xmas reminds us of God's love — a love which is unconditional, unlimited, unbounded, unrestricted; a love which is inclusive and tenacious, counting us in and never giving up on us; a love which spans

the earth, crosses frontiers, reaches into the remotest corners of the world, yet touches our lives; a love which is at the heart of the universe and in our hearts; a love which is so great that God gave us his one and only Son so that we will enjoy eternal life.

Thirdly, 'x' is a cross and the 'x' in Xmas reminds us of the Cross on Calvary. The cross on Calvary at Xmas? Well, take the gifts brought by the wise men — not the normal gifts for babies then and now — gold, frankincense and myrrh. Myrrh was one of the spices used in burials in Bible times and was used in Jesus' burial (See John 19:39-42). So the gift of myrrh pointed to this baby's future suffering and death to save us – his death on the cross. Some of our Carols also link the cradle and the cross: 'See him lying on a bed of straw'; 'Child in the manger'; 'The first Nowell'; 'Good Christians all, rejoice'. Incarnation and Atonement are inextricably linked.

And fourthly, it should really be not 'Xmas' but 'CHmas'. For that 'X' is not our capital 'X' but the capital form of the Greek letter 'χ'. It's in capital letters because our early Christian forbears always wrote Jesus Christ in capital letters ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ to give him all the honour; and at least 9 times out of 10 they used church shorthand: ΙΗΣ Χ. So when the word Christmas was first used they used the church shorthand again: Xmas. Those secularists who thought they had won a great victory by getting 'Christ' out of Christmas and calling it Xmas didn't do their homework!

I wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

**Rev John Fraser**

# COUNTDOWN to CHRISTMAS!

This is a project during Advent designed to help those in Edinburgh less fortunate than we are.

You are invited to bring gifts of non-perishable food, for donation to four charities —

## StreetWork

(a homelessness charity)

## St Catharine's Convent Homeless Project

## Richmond Fairshare

Craigmillar

## FourSquare

(supported accommodation for young women)



We would be very grateful if you would bring your *unwrapped* gifts to Greenbank Parish Church during December, where you can put them into our **Advent Hamper** (The young people of QII are offering us a role model. They have agreed every day in Advent to put aside a tin or a packet of dried food as part of a “reverse advent calendar”.)

For further details, please contact **Julia Dunbar**  
([julia.dunbar@btinternet.com](mailto:julia.dunbar@btinternet.com))

# Congregational Register

*Omitted from the  
on-line version of  
Greenbank Connections*



## Coffee Rota

### December

- 4 Communion – no coffee
- 11 Alison & John Murison (D62 & D60)
- 18 Library
- 25 Christmas – no coffee



### 2017

### January

- 1 Help the Homeless Group
- 8 Moira Davidson (D31B)
- 15 Rosemary McCulloch (D49 & D50)
- 22 Christina Morrow (D41A & B)
- 29 Susan Inch & Chris Horne (D48 & D37)

### February

- 5 SLA

# Flower Rota

### Provided by

### Delivered by

### December

- |    |              |                |
|----|--------------|----------------|
| 4  | Flower Group | Aileen Thomson |
| 11 | Julia Dunbar | –              |
| 18 | Christmas    |                |
| 25 | Christmas    |                |



### 2017

### January

- |    |                  |                  |
|----|------------------|------------------|
| 1  | Christmas        |                  |
| 8  | Ishbel Clark     | Diana Hastings   |
| 15 | Sinclair Family  | Win Kerr         |
| 22 | Mackay Family    | Margery Goodban  |
| 29 | Christine Willis | Rosemary Collier |

### February

- |   |              |               |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| 5 | Innes Family | Janet Edwards |
|---|--------------|---------------|

## Crèche Rota



### December

- |    |                       |                  |
|----|-----------------------|------------------|
| 4  | Ailsa Cameron         | Rachel McWilliam |
| 11 | Vivien Hutchison      | Lorna Perriss    |
| 18 | Pauline Walker        | Ailsa Cameron    |
| 25 | Christmas – no crèche |                  |

### 2017

### January

- |    |                  |                 |
|----|------------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Gillian Sweetman | Jenny Wright    |
| 8  | Eleanor Winton   | Carrie Reid     |
| 15 | Anne Kinnear     | Lucy Teall      |
| 22 | Nora Kellock     | Lorna Htet-Khin |
| 29 | Pauline Walker   | Janet Ferguson  |



# Welcome Teams

## December

- 4 John George**, Rhian Ferguson, Alastair Hunter, Kathleen Patrick, Dorothy Whitehead, Tony Foster, Diana Teasdale, Mark Fergusson
- 11 Ian Thom**, Keith Clark, Ray Dely, Catherine Hardie, Elizabeth Htet-Khin, Anne Oxbrow, Isobel Thom, Kay Ellis, Charles Black, Catriona Black
- 18 Donald King**, Brian Barron, Walter Crosby, Donald MacLeod, Roderick Morrison, Mairi Stevenson, Jim Young, Kathryn Sangster
- 25 Rosemary McCulloch**, Rona Ferguson, Fiona Grant, Christina Morrow, Alison Murison, Malcolm Reid, Joan Ritchie, Toby Tucker, Alastair Ross

## 2017

### January

- 1 Stuart Sanders**, Moira Davidson, John Murison, Rachel Cadell, Jenny Wright, Sandy Cameron, Carrie Reid, Moira Land, Julia Dunbar
- 8 Keith Winton**, Eileen Campbell, Richard Dunbar, Clifford Hastings, Chris Horne, Doris Laing, Enid Mowat, Robin Nimmo
- 15 John Ritchie**, Eric Brown, Ralph Davidson, Susan Inch, Gill Sweetman, Ian Thomson, Susan Jackman
- 22 Alan Armit**, Edith Armit, Louise Coghill, Iain Davidson, Hugh Cowan, Susan Black, Malcolm Watters, Nora Kellock, Elizabeth Mackay

- 29 John George**, Rhian Ferguson, Alastair Hunter, Kathleen Patrick, Dorothy Whitehead, Tony Foster, Diana Teasdale, Mark Fergusson

## February

- 5 Caroline Kehoe**, David Allan, Richard Denison, Ian McWilliam, Anne Kinnear, John Mowat, Jean Roynon-Jones, Lyndsay Kennedy

# Greenbank Calendar

## Continued from Page 16

### January (contd)

11 Wed	12.30	Prayer Group*
11 Wed	19.30	Country Dance Club
12 Thur	14.30	Work Party
15 Sun	10.30	Morning Worship
17 Tues	14.30	Guild (Joint with Fairmilehead)
18 Wed	12.30	Prayer Group*
18 Wed	14.30	Friendship Club (Music)
18 Wed	19.30	Country Dance Club
22 Sun	10.30	Morning Worship
25 Wed	12.30	Prayer Group*
25 Wed	14.30	Friendship Club
26 Thur	14.30	Work Party
28 Sat	19.00	YACHT Burns Supper
29 Sun	10.30	Morning Worship

### February

1 Wed	12.30	Prayer Group*
1 Wed	14.30	Friendship Club (Music)
1 Wed	19.30	Country Dance Club
5 Sun	9.30	First Sunday Service
	10.30	Morning Worship

*\*Check previous Sunday's Order of Service to confirm that the event is running*

## Greenbank Calendar: December 2016 / January 2017

### December

1 Thurs	10.30	Work Party
2 Fri	19.30	Pre-Communion Service
3 Sat	10.00	Christian Aid Coffee Morning
4 Sun		<b>2nd in Advent</b> 9.00, 10.30, 15.00 Communion
6 Tues	19.30	Guild
7 Wed	12.30	Prayer Group*
7 Wed	14.30	Friendship Club
7 Wed	19.30	Country Dance Club
10 Sat	13.30	Christmas Event for Children
11 Sun		<b>3rd in Advent</b> 10.30 Lessons and Carols Young Church – end of term 15.00 Blue Christmas Service (for those coping with loss)
13 Tues	19.00	Guild Christmas Party
14 Wed	12.30	Prayer Group*
14 Wed	14.30	Friendship Club Christmas Party
14 Wed	19.30	Country Dance Club
17 Sat	14.30	Pathfinders & Explorers Party
18 Sun		<b>4th in Advent</b> 10.30 Gift Service
18 Sun	16.00	Carol Party
24 Sat		<b>Christmas Eve</b> 19.00 Family Service 23.30 Watchnight Service (Carol singing from 23.10)
25 Sun		<b>Christmas Day</b> 10.30 Family Service

\*Check previous Sunday's Order of Service  
to confirm that the event is running

### January

1 Sun	10.30	Morning Worship
3 Tues	10.30	Guild Coffee Morning
8 Sun	10.30	Morning Worship Young Church – start of term

**Continued on Page 15**

*The pastoral team can be contacted  
through the Church Office or directly:*

**Rev Alison Swindells**

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*email: [alisonswindells@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:alisonswindells@blueyonder.co.uk)*

**Rev W. Peter Graham**

*tel: 0131 445 5763*

*For information about church organisa-  
tions, please contact the Church Office:*

*(Mon–Fri, 8.30am–12.00 noon,  
1.30pm–3.00pm)*

**Mrs Virginia Johnston**

*tel and fax: 0131 447 9969*

*email: [greenbankchurch@btconnect.com](mailto:greenbankchurch@btconnect.com)*

*To make contact with any organisation  
featured in Greenbank Connections,  
please use the telephone number  
given, if there is one. Otherwise please  
contact the Church Office.*

**Website: [www.greenbankchurch.org](http://www.greenbankchurch.org)**

**Postal address: Greenbank Parish Church  
Braidburn Terrace, Edinburgh EH10 6ES**

*Material for the February issue of  
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Editors' pigeon-hole in the Main Hall  
by Sunday 15th January, or emailed  
by 9am on Tuesday 17th January to  
[greenbankconnections@gmail.com](mailto:greenbankconnections@gmail.com)*