

***September & October 2015***

# THE MESSENGER



***Victorian Fayre at High Auchensail Farm***

***The Magazine of St Michael  
And All Angels  
Episcopal Church  
Helensburgh  
[www.stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelhelensburgh.org.uk)***

**THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WILLIAM STREET, HELENSBURGH**

Charity Registered in Scotland SC006468

**The Bishop of Glasgow & Galloway**

The Very Rev Gregor Duncan

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## From the Rector

You are probably not aware of this but your Rector is a prophet (why do you think I sport a beard and can be curmudgeonly...?)

Whilst I was at university in the early 1970s I travelled to Kenya, to Northern Portugal, and to various places in Northern India and Kashmir. In all of these places I saw at first-hand real poverty. Portugal was still ruled by a dictator, and of course extreme poverty was endemic in India. At the same time I also saw the Gorbals at absolutely the very end of squalid habitation there. I was a geographer by training, so what I saw and experienced I registered, and built up a picture and theory in my mind.

When I returned from India I started saying to anyone who would listen, "If we don't give the poor of the world more of what they need and have a right to expect, then soon they are going to come and take what they feel they should have." Bear in mind that this was just before Jeffry Sachs wrote his ground-breaking book 'The End of Poverty'. People have not taken much more notice of his book and advice either! It must be acknowledged, though, that recent British Governments have tried to maintain Britain's level of 'Overseas Aid'.

And here they are, the world's poor, the oppressed and the dispossessed clamouring to gain entry to Europe, North America, and Australia, because they are certain that they can make a better life for themselves. The vast majority of these people are genuinely desperate. The vast majority do NOT want to 'sponge' but want to work hard and better themselves and their families. The vast majority from war-torn countries genuinely want peace. They would not

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make the perilous journeys , and entrust themselves to criminal traffickers, if they were not desperate.

They know full well what wealth lies in Europe, North America, and Australia, because they see it in multiple media presentations throughout the world. Many also know from first-hand accounts coming from family and friends already in rich countries.

If we focus only on Europe we need to remember that there are some 2.5 million British citizens working and living on the European mainland, primarily to better themselves. We call them 'ex-pats ' - so that's all right then? In reality they are 'economic migrants' as much as anyone else called this. So what is wrong with other people in Europe wanting to travel in this way to better themselves? There is no law, God-made or human-made, which makes it illegal to want to better yourself and your family. (Ah, but of course, as a right-wing politician has recently reminded us, it IS wrong for these migrants to threaten to reduce our high standard of living. I wonder how Jesus would challenge him??)

The Christian churches in all of Britain have got to take a stand for compassion, for respect, for generosity, for those who are migrating across the world fleeing war, oppression, appalling and de-humanising poverty. Whatever the gutter-press or certain ignorant politicians like to say, factual evidence from both government sources and an independent study show that, if immigrants do claim benefits or rely on charities, most get off them quickly and support themselves. Christians have got to speak up for the truth. This does include acknowledging that immigration is placing a great strain on housing- and educational resources in some areas of the country. But then Christians should be persistent in pressurising government into getting its spending priorities right and providing more schools and houses. We in this area know of vast sums of money tied-up and wasted, and which could be much more profitably used for the good of the nation.

Christians need to remember that care for and respect for 'the stranger and the alien, and for the needy' has been enjoined on the followers of our God from the early days of the Old Testament story. Jesus exercised a lot of His ministry amongst people who were definitely regarded as 'strangers and aliens'. St. Paul's message and actions were similar, and caused a major riot in Jerusalem which led to his journey as a prisoner to Rome.

God expects us to follow their example. Care, respect, compassion, and generosity, towards the millions on the move around the world have to be an integral part of our faith. Practising Christian love towards 'the stranger and

alien' may be counter-cultural and unpopular, but we have no choice. Jesus challenges us to do it in His name.

Bear in mind that the poor and the dispossessed , as I prophesied, are not going to go back. In his book 'I Tried to Run a Railway', Gerard Twistleton-Wykeham Fiennes, describing the trials of trying to buy the fleet of Deltic diesel locos for the East Coast passenger services in the early 1960s, wrote "He who wants something is always stronger than the person who doesn't want him to have it - if he wants it enough." The poor and desperate on the move around the world desire things even more important than 22 Deltic locomotives. They desire safety from, release from, the dangers of war and the soul-destroying and de-humanising poverty which oppresses so many millions.

Jesus Christ says they have every right to search for these things. He expects us who are so materially rich and blest to support Him and demonstrate His love, compassion, and generosity, towards them.

God Bless you.

The Rector

## Notices

**Monthly Coffee Mornings**     *Everyone is invited*

**September 3<sup>rd</sup>**, at Michael and Marian Blake's, 1, West Montrose Street

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** at Sue and James Ashby's Westgarth, 8, West Abercromby St.

### **Dates for Mothers' Union**

**All dates and times are on Pages 8 and 9.** If you haven't been before do come along, you will be made very welcome. More info at [www.mothersunion.org.uk](http://www.mothersunion.org.uk)

## **SUMMER SONGS OF PRAISE**

Please reserve the evening of **Sunday 6th September** and bring along your family, friends and neighbours. Make this an opportunity to show visitors a good St. Michael's welcome. Join in familiar hymns and hear why they were chosen. While you rest your voices, Martyn Marshall, our Director of Music, will introduce contributions from the choir and demonstrate the capabilities of our organ. Come along at 6.30 p.m and help make this a memorable evening.     *Kevin*

### **Eco Congregation Dates**

1. Helensburgh Network Meeting     **Wednesday 9th September at 10:30** at the Parish Kirk Bungalow (West King St ) Main topic: James St Garden Project.
2. All Local Networks Seminar Dunblane Cathedral Halls **Sat 26th Sept. 11-3.30pm**  
' After Paris, What next?' Paris Summit on Climate     **Mon. 30th November**

*Selina*

## Harvest Festival 2015

Harvest Festival will be on **Sunday 20th September**. If you usually help to arrange floral decorations for the festival, please note that we will be in church from 9 am. on Saturday 19th September. If anyone else would like to help, please **phone Sue Ashby on 675541**. Donations of flowers & greenery will be gratefully received

## Concert



There will be a concert by the '**Helensburgh Family Singers**'  
in support of **Christian Aid**  
in the Parish Church at **7pm on Sunday 4 October**.

*John Hanks*

## Thank you

Barbara & Shaun Hoey wish to thank most sincerely all our friends in in the Church for your prayers, concerns & practical help in so many ways during these last few months while Shaun underwent chemotherapy.

Shaun has now been given the all clear. This means he is back in the choir and once again making his caustic, but hopefully good humoured, comments as usual. You are a wonderful family!

*Barbara & Shaun*

## Vestry

**Monday 7th September** sees the first Vestry meeting following the Summer break. As usual it will be held in the Rectory at 7:30pm. Our last quorate meeting took place on 27th April so there will be a lot of business to discuss. If members of the congregation have any issues they feel need to be discussed, please contact a Vestry member well before the meeting so that we don't need to bring camp beds for the night.

*Richard Smith*

## The Prayer Meeting

will now be held in the Trinity Chapel on a Wednesday evening, for 40 minutes before the Eucharist. .Anne and I warmly encourage you -and especially the MAP team members- to come join us as often as possible. Prayer is a vital part of our ministry as a church. Thank you.

*The Rector.*

## The Victorian Fayre

On Saturday June 27th 2015, a miraculous, fine day dawned enabling the efforts of six months preparation by a great number of St. Michael's congregation, family and friends, to blossom into a memorable day.

The carnival atmosphere was greatly enhanced by music played by Martyn Marshall, David Lander and Ronnie Collins - and the Victorian costume donned by

many guests, thanks to the inspiration of Shaun Hoey.



There were black toppers, silk neckerchiefs, fancy waistcoats, silver topped walking sticks, fob watches and monocles. The ladies were adorned in flowery bonnets tied under the chin, frilly high necked blouses, shawls and full skirts and the use of Victorian lace collars and cuffs.

Queen Victoria (played by Selina McGeoch) was truly impressive in looks, demeanour and speech. Roy O'Neil's vintage Austin Seven, although not of the Victorian era, was a great mode of transport for the royal party and we are greatly indebted to him for its use. Joan Sadden, being mistress of the wardrobe, was dedicated in her attention to detail and her needle and did a splendid job.



The young Scottish dancers from the Mary Rose School were delightful and were rewarded for their performance by an individual gift of a bracelet and little lavender bags, made by Susan Lewis. The generosity of everyone who contributed to the various stalls, the soup, the scones and the cake makers, and the organisation, cooperation and team work of

all involved was exemplary. Congratulations to all.

The sun shone for all the seven hour event and I think all of us felt the presence of the Holy Spirit blessing our endeavours and bestowing a jubilant atmosphere. Happily it seems that the enjoyment of the day has given vicarious pleasure even to those not able to be there. Richard Horrell, returning from his holiday a day early, took photographs and a video. Thus a DVD will be available in due course. Please contact him on 01436 676936 if you would like a copy. Thanks to everyone's generosity and the skillful wisdom of John Lewis who thought out how we might make best use of the gift aid forms, we were rewarded with the

amazing sum of almost £6000 of which £2000 has been allocated to the Lay Reader's discretionary charitable fund and the remainder allocated to church funds. It has made it easier for us to believe the parable of the Feeding of the Five Thousand when we saw a similar miracle happening here. DEO GRATIS Michael Wilson especially wants to express his appreciation of the speedy and efficient clear-up at the end of the day.

We send our very real gratitude to every single person involved in the day's activities, and thank them for the fellowship and fun we all experienced, which has enriched our lives *Rosemary Wilson on behalf of the organisers, Michael and Rosemary Wilson, John and Susan Lewis, Shaun and Barbara Hoey*

### **St Michael's Art Group**

The Art Group will be starting up again on the 11th of September after a summer break. We had our last meeting before the break at the end of June before the Victorian Fête. At the fête you will have had an opportunity to see some of the work that had been done in the group and had a chance to approve of it and contribute to the church funds. We are grateful for the support you gave us and about £120 was contributed to the funds by your generosity. We find the group a congenial and useful gathering and we still have plenty of space if you would like to join us.

The Art Group meets in the lower hall for two hours on a Thursday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm. We find it an ideal way to make time for painting, away from the requirements of the usual busy days. We are not a class in that there is no teaching and the members go their own ways using pencil, pen water colour, pastel, acrylic or mixed media. We help each other if possible but the whole idea is to relax and record some aspect of the glory of creation as best we can in a form that can help someone else to see what we have seen. Do come and join us. There is no fee but we hope we will be able to have opportunity in the future to raise funds in a similar way as at the fête.

*John MacCallum*

### **Mothers' Union**

Our Mothers' Union Branch has a new leader for this session - Joan Thompson. Joan's email [jandi21@sky.com](mailto:jandi21@sky.com) and her phone number is 01436 423451. An enormous thank you must be given to Margaret Horrell for her enthusiastic and inspiring work for MU over the years and Joan has no intention of trying in any way to fill Margaret's shoes which are much too big for her!

MU starts again on Monday 24 August at 2.00 pm with a short Communion service followed by refreshments in the hall. All are welcome to join us - Mothers' Union is no longer just for married women with children but for everyone, male and female, young and old. If you haven't been to an MU meeting before, now is your chance to join us and you will be made very welcome.

Please note the change of times and dates - first Tuesday of the month at 1.45 pm and third Thursday of the month at 10.00 am. This is to fit in with hall bookings. We also hope to hold some evening meetings during the winter for those who have other duties (like work!) during the day.

This year's programme will contain, we hope, something to appeal to everyone.

These are the dates and activities up to Christmas:

**Monday 24 August** 1.45 pm - opening meeting of session with Eucharist service by David Cook

**Sunday 6 September** 6.30pm- Songs of Praise led by Kevin Boak

**Thursday 17 September** 10.00 am - Half a World

**Tuesday 6 October** 1.45 pm - Putting the House to Bed

**Friday 16 October** 7.00 pm - Desert Island Discs with guest Martyn Marshall

**Thursday 22 October** 10.00 am - My Favourite Things

**Tuesday 3 November** 1.45 pm - Hope through Hospitality in the Middle East

**Thursday 19 November** 10.00 am - Maureen Ann Designs

**Tuesday 8 December** 1.45 pm - Christmas Crackers

Margaret Gilbert represented St Michael's MU at the Annual General meeting held in Nottingham Royal Concert Hall and her report is elsewhere in this magazine.

Forthcoming meetings are the Scottish Provincial Conference in Perth on 24th September which Joan hopes to attend. The Autumn Council is to be held in Holy Name, Fleming Road, Cumbernauld on 3rd October. All are welcome.

From 5th-7th October Margaret Gilbert and Joan Thompson are joining some members of Swedish Mothers' Union on Iona. Please remember all these events in your prayers.

Mothers' Union activities are not just limited to meetings. Morag and Barbara ran the cake stall at the Victoria Summer Fayre and want to say thank you to all who helped them by baking. Packs for emergency admission to hospital are also provided by the branch.

I look forward to seeing many of our congregation and community at our meetings.

*Joan Thompson*

# Calendar for September & October 2015

## **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

Coffee Morning at 1 West Montrose St.

## **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 14<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30-11.30am Sung Eucharist (Crèche )

6.30pm Summer Songs of Praise in church

## **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

Vestry Meeting in the Rectory 7.30pm

## **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments. 11.45am -12.45pm Rector available in the choir vestry

## **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

Mission Action Planning Prayer day  
(*Trinity Chapel open for prayer 9am-7.30pm*)

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

## **\* FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> September\***

Rambling Club (*see page 16*)

## **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 15<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30-11.30am Sung Eucharist (Crèche)

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

## **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments. 11.45am-12.45pm Rector available in the Choir Vestry

## **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

Feast Day of St. Ninian

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

## **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

10.00am Mothers' Union meeting

## **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 16<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (Crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30-11.30am Sung Eucharist (Crèche )

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

## **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments. 11.45am -12.45pm Rector available in the choir vestry

## **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

6.30pm Prayer group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

## **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

Rambling Club (*see page 16*)

10.30am-12.00 Messy Church at St.

Margaret's Churchill

## **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 17<sup>th</sup> after Trinity**

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (Crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30am-11.30am Sung Eucharist (Crèche)

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

## **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments. 11.45am-12.45pm Rector available in the Choir Vestry

## **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

# Calendar for September & October 2015

## OCTOBER

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Coffee Morning at 65 Macleod Drive

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 18<sup>th</sup> after Trinity

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (Crèche)

**\*11-00am Joint Worship\*** at United Reformed Church

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October

7.30pm Vestry Meeting in the Rectory

### Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments 11.45am-12.45pm Rector available in the choir vestry.

1.45pm Mothers' Union meeting

### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

### Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October

Rambling Club (*see page 16*)

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 19<sup>th</sup> after Trinity

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (Crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30-11.30am Sung Eucharist (Crèche )

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments. 11.45am- 12.45 Rector available in the choir vestry

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Mission Action Planning Prayer Day.

(Trinity Chapel open for prayer 9am-7.30pm)

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 20<sup>th</sup> after Trinity

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (Crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30-11.30am Sung Eucharist(Crèche )

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments 11.45am -12.45pm Rector available in the choir vestry

### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

### Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

10.00am Mothers' Union Meeting

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Rambling Club (*see page 16*)

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 21<sup>st</sup> after Trinity

8.00am Said Eucharist (1970 Rite)

9.30-10.00am 'Open Spirit' contemporary worship (Crèche)

10.30-11.30am Sunday Clubs for children

10.30-11.30am Sung Eucharist(Crèche )

6.30pm Prayer Book Choral Evensong

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October

10.30am Said Eucharist followed by refreshments. 11.45am -12.45pm Rector available in the choir vestry

### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October

6.30pm Prayer Group

7.30pm Said Eucharist

### Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October

10.30-12.00 Messy Church in URC Hall

## **Us – formerly USPG or the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel**

From time to time I am asked what Us means and what it is, so I thought I should explain. Previously, it was known as USPG or the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The full title no longer seemed to reflect the society's current activities and concerns.

Us works in partnership with local Anglican churches around the world to improve health, to place children in school, tackle discrimination, nurture leaders, give a voice to women and much more besides. It works in Britain, Ireland and worldwide where there are Anglican churches. It also works in partnership with the Delhi Brotherhood whose work in the slums of North India is so well known. Last year's St Michael's Christmas appeal for the hospital in Gaza was sent to Palestine via Us. Several times a year Us sends out a magazine and a prayer booklet. One week is designated for each country in which Us operates. I distribute these to members of the congregation who have expressed interest in receiving them and I send Us any financial contributions I am given. If you would like to know more and receive the magazine and prayer list I would be happy to let you have a copy.

*Marion Blake*

### **Eco Congregation**

I am finding it very difficult to write this brief article because the planet's situation is so desperate. A leading scientist broke down in tears when called on to describe the devastation wrought by mankind and the death of marine life caused by a mixture of acidification, pollution by toxic waste, and mass over-fishing.

Then I turn to read the encyclical published recently by Pope Francis entitled 'Laudato Si' (mi Signore.....) The title, Praise to You, (my Lord....) is the first line of the Canticle of Creation by St Francis, a work of great joy and power which helps me to regain my composure. An old Jesuit friend of mine used to quote the adage that everything in the Roman Catholic church was either forbidden or compulsory. It is an unkind stereotype but it has the hint of truth in it that encourages me to believe that now all the Christian churches can act together in an even more forceful way since the largest church (numerically) is officially 'on message'. The Climate Change conference in Paris is only three and half months away. Our Eco Congregation baton which put in a brief appearance in Helensburgh, has gone from Dumfries to Orkney and back. Up hill and mountain, down to valley and loch, to schools, churches and community halls. It will go with our prayers to join the actions of all people of good will who realize that this is the last chance for the governments of the world to act in unity to wean the world off fossil fuels as fast as possible. It is one of the most important events of this decade, and we must support it with prayer and penitence. You may think that as an individual you can

do nothing much, but joined together and by our own choices materially and politically, pressure can be brought to bear on our government to take the long view. A revolution is needed in the way we understand concepts such as the economy, progress, community, and sustainability. The Christian message of a loving Creator who has reconciled us through His Son is needed now more than at any time before. It is the only answer. Creation Time, the World Wide Movement, starts on September 1st and runs until 4th October (St Francis' Day) let us all use this time to reconsider our life styles and seek guidance. I hope we may use the Harvest Festival time for our reflections.

*P.S. Unlike other European Governments ours has allowed the continued use of bee-killing pesticides. A letter to your M.P. would be useful. Selina McGeoch*

### **St Michael's Walking Group Sutherland Trip – May 2015**

When James said that there was a 43 mile single track road to negotiate on the drive up to the STM Walking Group trip to Sutherland I was filled with trepidation. Memories of the first time I drove up and down the single track Mam Ratagan Pass to Glenelg in 2014 were still fresh – and it was only 9 miles! We made a last minute decision to set off on Sunday taking a stopover in Fort William – Luckily for us it rained on the Sunday so by the time we started out, the road it was fairly quiet; all the coaches and larger vehicles must have travelled earlier. No problem.

After a hearty breakfast we set off north on Monday morning, once again pleased with the lack of traffic in our direction. Thus far the weather had been fairly sunny. However, as we were driving through the centre of Inverness the heavens opened. Fortuitously for me traffic lights brought us to a halt outside the Inverness branch of the Tiso Store. Now I can thoroughly recommend their 'in store' café and rest facilities; I also received my belated Birthday present – new single click walking poles (also to be highly recommended). So fed, watered and having had 'retail therapy' we continued on our journey.

The next stage of the journey was fairly straight forward but it was at Lairg that it got exciting! Surely the Garmin couldn't be sending us down this little track ..... but yes it was, and onwards for 40 miles; single track across an open breathtaking wilderness. I was very relieved that it was so unlike the Mam Ratagan Pass – you could see for miles ahead and there were lots of passing places Typically, when we decided to stop for a coffee break and take some pictures the rain fell again! When we arrived at Kinlochbervie we made a couple of circuits of the village and finally gave in and asked directions to the hotel at the Post Office – we were just around the corner. The hotel staff were very welcoming and we ate a lovely meal while enjoying the sea view. As usual there were the sounds of chatter and

laughter filling the room, although I think most of us were pretty tired. We were all looking forward to our first outing to Sandwood Bay.



You see the beautiful sands surrounded by soft dunes and blue sea in brochures but it isn't until you are there that you really experience the 'wow' factor. It was beautiful, wild and unspoilt. We had walked 4 miles to get there and it was worth every step.

On day three we were on our way to Tongue via Balnakell (for chocolate, coffee and retail therapy!) and a wonderful walk on Faraid Head. Faraid Head was stunning and provided a brilliant platform to watch the sea birds perform while we were having lunch. We were bathed in sunshine, although the strong wind was ever present. The road to Tongue was another interesting drive, single track with stunning views around Loch Eriboll, and a couple of keen hair-pin bends. It was quite a relief to reach our lovely hotel in Tongue overlooking the Kyles of Tongue.



The following morning we split into different groups – James took those who wanted some high adventure up Ben Loyal and Sue took those who were happy with a more modest climb. I went on Sue's walk, which covered a variety of different terrains and we finished up enjoying lunch; the white sand beneath our feet, the sun burning our faces and the sea looking azure and inviting- bliss! Trevor had been keen to climb Ben Hope as it was a Munro and Ben Loyal was 'only' a Corbett. Returning from the walk (shattered) he was disappointed that they had only managed to complete four of the five peaks!! It had of course been a challenge. It had been a wonderful day – we were all tired but it didn't matter, having enjoyed Sutherland and the wonderful company of the StM Walking Group. I, for one, was sad when we said our goodbyes after breakfast. Our adventure was coming to a close. James and Sue had done a brilliant logistical job – conducting a recce, negotiating competitive terms in the hotels and taking us to places we had only dreamed of going. Thank you Sue and James and to all our fellow walkers. Looking forward to next year already!

*Gerry Quickfall*

(PS. before then- another 40 miles of single track road with amazing scenery!)

## ROBERTA (ROBBIE) LEIGH CORNISH, 1937 – 2015

On July 23rd 2015 God received Robbie Cornish into his care. One can't help but believe that in fact he received back one of his angels who whilst on this earth touched those of us who were fortunate enough to know her with her bright, cheery and happy disposition.

At her service of thanksgiving which was taken by the Reverend Lisa Barnett, the Vicar at Maurice and Robbie's new church in Scaynes Hill, she said of Robbie: "Robbie was a special lady, wasn't she? She was beautiful, inside and out. It seemed to me that Robbie had a rare gift of grace, and of being at peace whatever the circumstances. She epitomised for me St. Paul's words in Philippians, "I have learned the secret of being content in each and every situation".

Robbie had a wisdom and a pragmatism and always a twinkle in her eye. She was able to face whatever life brought with courage and resilience; she was able to love, and to care, and to think about others even when she was in need herself.

She gave so much to so many, as a daughter, and sister, and wife, and mother, and mother-in-law, and grandmother, and auntie, and cousin. And as a nurse. And as a friend...".

We, in Helensburgh, thank God for the twenty plus years Robbie and Maurice spent with us. For her work and energy as enrolling member of the Mothers' Union for 7 years, as a lay minister of Communion, in organising church cleaning for nearly 20 years and more simply in being a much loved member of the St Michael's family.

In knowing she had an illness from which there was no escape, she and Maurice moved to Scaynes Hill in Sussex to be near their family. They very quickly made new friends and were wonderfully received into St Augustine's Church in their village. Although her time at the church was brief, the Service of Thanksgiving for her Life was a very moving affair. Robbie had organised the service and left instructions that hymns were to be sung "lustily" with "Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer" opening the batting and reminding us of her Welsh roots. To Maurice's absolute joy, Ian Craston read a lesson from Revelation 21:1-6...I saw a new heaven and a new earth.... Tributes were written by all the members of the family including 8 year old Ross and read by the Reverend Lisa.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Maurice and his family in their loss.

(Donations in memory of Robbie should be sent to either St Peter and St James Hospice or Macmillan Cancer Support, c/o Masters and Son, Lewes Rd, Lindfield, RH16 2LE)

# ST MICHAEL'S RAMBLING CLUB

## New Committee:

Ethnee Ashton (676959) Richard Horrell (676936) John Lewis (01389 841592)  
Jo Scott (01389 849145)

DATE	GRADE	WALK	LEADER
29th August	Hard	Puck's Glen from Gairletter	Pete Ashton 676959
*11th September <b>Friday - please note change of date</b>	Moderate	Connell to Oban <b>or</b> Oban train station to Dunollie Museum Castle & Grounds	Sue Hume 675358
26th September	Moderate	Loch Drunkie from Brig o' Turk	James Ashby 675541
10th October	Mod/Hard	Butterbridge & Eagle Falls	Pete Ashton 676959
24th October	Moderate	Beinn Dubh and the Horseshoe, Luss	Richard Horrell 676936
7th November	Easy	Chatelherault & the Avon Gorge	John Lewis 01389 841592

Note that the grade, and possibly the walk, may change after the rec More detail will be provided nearer the date of each walk, and easier options will normally be investigated.



LECTIONARY –September & October 2015

Sunday	Eucharist	Evensong
September 6th	Isaiah 35:4-7a James 2; 1-17 Mark 7: 24-end	No Evensong
September 13th	Isaiah 50:4-9a James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-end	Ezekiel 20:1-8+33-44 Acts 20;17-28 Psalm 119:18-28
September 20th	Jeremiah 11:18-20 James 3:13- 4:3+7-8a Mark 9:30-37	Ruth 2:1-23 Matthew 13:24-30 Psalm 150
September 27th	Numbers 11:4-6+10-16+24-29 James 5: 13-end Mark 9: 38-end	Ezekiel 37:15-28 1 John 2: 22-29 Psalms 120+121
October 4th	Genesis 2:18-24 Hebrews 1:1-4+ 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	Proverbs 2:1-11 1 John 2:1-17 Psalms 125+126
October 11th	Amos 5:6-7+10-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31	Proverbs 3:1-18 1 John 3:1-15 Psalms 127+128
October 18th	Isaiah 53:4-12 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	Proverbs 4:1-18 1 John 3:16- 4:6 Psalm 141
October 25th	Jeremiah 31:7-9 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52	Ecclesiastes 11:1-10 2 Timothy 2:1-7 Psalm 119:121-128

### **READERS' LIST September & October 2015**

DATE	8:00am	10:30am	6:30pm
6 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	Chris Sanders	Lena Sutter	No Evensong
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Katherine Black	Michael Blake	Kate Moos
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Selina McGeoch	John Hanks	John Sadden
27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Penny Johnston	Chris Packard	Joan Sadden
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Anthony Laceby	Tom Allison	Margaret Gilbert
11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Net Lawrence	Julie Semens	Penny Johnston
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Nigel Allan	Helen Gibson	Maurice Steuart-Corry
25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	John MacCallum	Susan Lewis	Maureen McCormack

### **Memorial Book**

The Memorial Book for deceased members of the congregation is displayed in the Trinity Chapel next to the Vestry Door. Proposals for a more visible location are to be considered at the next Vestry meeting. All members of the congregation are asked to consider whether they would like to submit details of any of their relatives who were members of St. Michael and All Angels before their death to add to the book. Please pass these details to Joan Sadden with a photo if you have one. The book is designed to be expandable so don't worry about overfilling it.

*Richard Smith*

<b><u>Church Group Leaders</u></b>	<b><u>Contact People/Organisers</u></b>	
People's Warden	Morag Carlaw	672090
Rector's Warden	Jo Scott	01389 849145
Sunday School		
- Crèche	Pauline and Ray Williams	673944
- Infants, Juniors and Bible Class	Anne Cook	672500
Sidespersons	Brian Kyle	672951
Bellringers	Kitty Fleming	676963
Reading (Lessons) Rota	Nigel Allan	671875
Cleaning Co-ordinator	Barbara Hoey	671718
Visiting Co-ordinator	Vacant	
Flowers	Sue Ashby	675541
Intercessions Rota, Laundry, Soft Fabrics and Chief Sacristan	Joan Sadden	672422
Sunday Coffee Rota	Margaret Horrell	676936
BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship Notes)	Susan Lewis	01389 841592
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Joan Thompson	423451
Us (Formerly USPG)	Marion Blake	673960
Keep Fit/ Hall Convener/ Monthly Coffee Morning Rota	Maureen Kyle	672951
Eco Congregation	Selina McGeoch	676074
Hill walking and Rambling Club	James Ashby	675541
Badminton Club	Shaun Hoey	671718
Traidcraft	Jo Scott	01389 849145
Vale of Leven Hospital Tea Bar	Judith Adams	672477
St Michael's Art Group	John MacCallum	673521
Magazine Editor	Marjory Barrington	820484
Assistant Editor	Richard Smith	831087
Collation / Distribution	Barbara Hoey	671718

Ask how to join or help. Perhaps bring new ideas for new activities. You will be welcome. Please let the editor know if any changes are needed.



## Sunday Services

Eucharist.....(1970 Rite).....	8:00am
Open Spirit Contemporary Worship.....	9.30am
Sung Eucharist.....(1982 Rite).....	10:30am
Prayer Book Choral Evensong.....	6.30pm

## Weekdays

Eucharist Tuesday.....(1970 Rite).....	10:30am
Prayer Group Wednesday in the Trinity Chapel.....	6.30pm
Eucharist Wednesday.....(1982 Rite).....	7:30pm