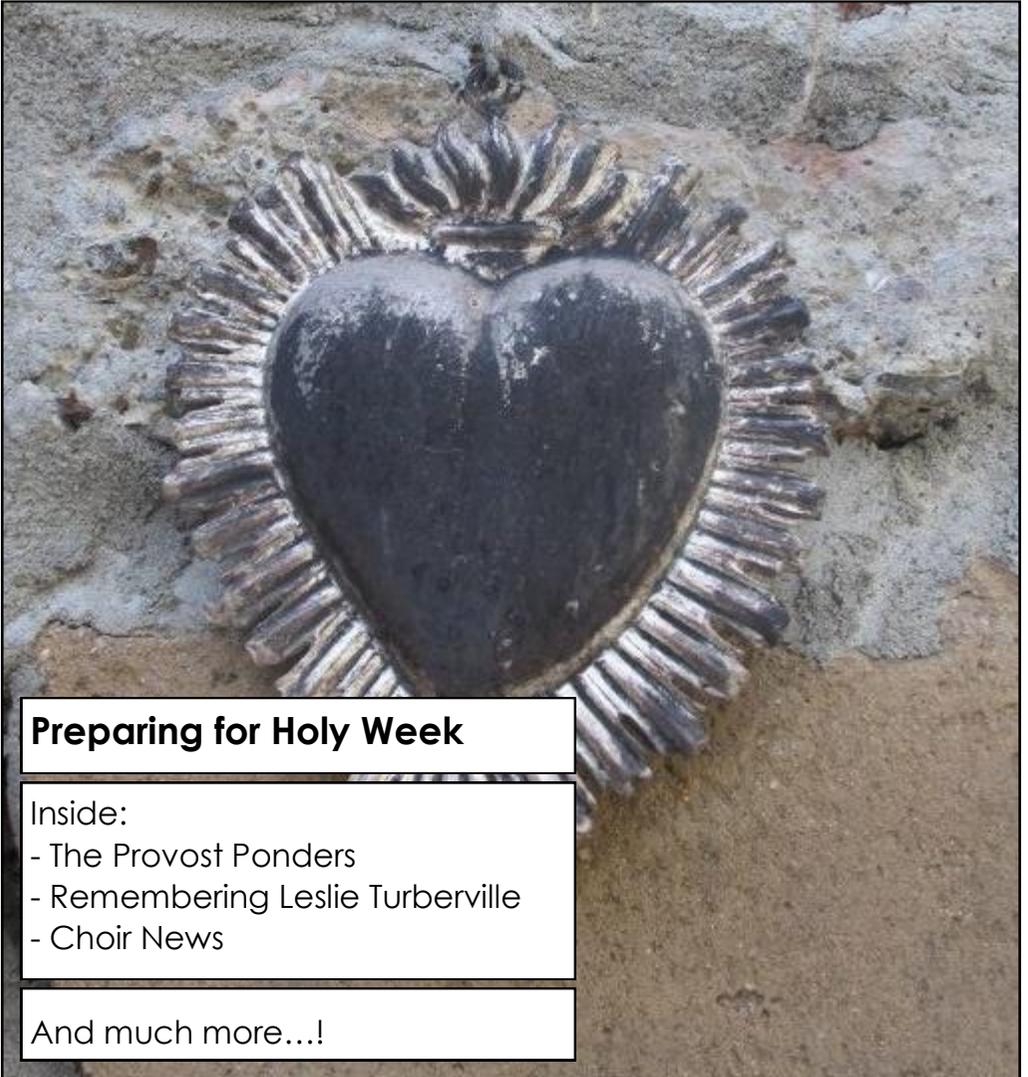


# FOCUS



on St. Andrew's Cathedral

March 2016



## Preparing for Holy Week

Inside:

- The Provost Ponders
- Remembering Leslie Turberville
- Choir News

And much more...!

## The Provost Ponders

It is a moment of disruption in Lent as the posies are being prepared for Mothering Sunday. There is joy in the midst of solemnity, very much like most things we do in the Church. One reason for my looking forward to this day is the Simnel cake with its two layers of almond paste, one on top and one in the middle and the 11 balls of marzipan icing on top. The posies remind us of God's generous love in creation, the simnel cake with two layers of almond representing two natures of Jesus and 11 balls of icing representing the 11 disciples with one missing for Judas. The interactive drama between the human and the divine is beautifully depicted in the symbols of Mothering Sunday. Are you up for disruption?

'Disruption' seems to feature high on my mind and I believe I am not alone in feeling that at the Cathedral right now. I am informed that there is a sense of disruption to our well established ways of being the Cathedral and doing things. We are more accustomed to 'getting our ducks in a row' I am told and

there is no room for disruptive innovation! Let me spell it out at the very outset, which I said earlier, that I detest disruption. I love to get my ducks in a row and life is so good when it all goes to plan. Alas, it is the nature of life to be disruptive! Or did I mean to say, life in nature is disruptive and that is what makes life what it is?

I love listening to stories, personal stories from people. I am amazed at the range of reasons people have moved to Aberdeen and made a home here. In their time in Aberdeen people have seen life being disrupted in many ways. Most disruptions are good. Coming to work or study in the Granite City and finding people to love and share life with, having a family and learning to walk with a Zimmer and the list would be endless. Some disruptions are disastrous and yet we recover from them and learn to rise from the ashes to find new life. Disruption is a reality of life and as much as we prefer to avoid it, it comes to us more often than we realise.

## The Provost Ponders

Lent is a season of disruption. We commit ourselves to do things differently. Prayer is an act of disruption and we are called to pray. We are disruptive people when to choose to follow Christ. I hope I am not over doing 'disruption' and please accept my apologies if I do. I am a bit excited with this word because I was told recently that disruptive innovation is at the core of most technological development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. And most IT giants of today, I gather, hire people to be disruptive to their developmental projects. One reason for the Oil industry to be in trouble, I gather, is because they were too much used to getting their ducks in a row; alongside the Education industry i.e. the universities. I twigged then that the Church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century must be the market leader in dodging disruption and it has now come home to roost. I would hate to think that St Andrew's Cathedral is part of the trend. I shall let you to be the judge.

The thought that the Cathedral

Development Project will be highly disruptive is paralysing. It is hard to imagine that life will remain the same while we wish to have the Cathedral ready for the Christian witness in the city of Aberdeen, today. I read in one of the contingency plans from 2007 (kept safely in our archives) to move our activities elsewhere while the interiors are being done up and I was impressed by the keen eye for details. And the thought of disruption that will result from such major operation is rather paralysing. I would rather not be disruptive and add to the reputation I seem to have earned already. I hear a few calls to abort disruption, yet most of us believe that status quo is not an option for the Cathedral Church of St Andrew, today. It will be Easter soon, the greatest disruption of life! Are you ready for disruption?

As ever, Isaac

*PS. Disruptive behaviour is a serious psycho social problem which has no place in the church and in society. The above pondering does not condone pathological problem of disruptive behaviour in any shape or form.*

## Discernment – Lenten Breakfast Series

By The Provost

Should you feel puzzled about the Provost's wisdom of moving from the theme of Disruption to the theme of Discernment, you are fully justified. Could someone be both disruptive and discerning? Well, if you read the Gospels closely you will find that this dual spiritual operations cohabited in Jesus of Nazareth. The frustration of the movers and shakers of the religious establishment at the time of our Lord's mission in the Land of Promise centred around his innate ability to disrupt their norms. He was quick to discern their desire for control and expose it as the core cause of the status quo i.e. oppression under Rome. This dual spiritual operations of our Lord to be both acutely discerning and openly disruptive, frustrated the establishment and the sociological consequence of that was the ultimate cost he paid with a brutal death on the cross. No doubt you would want to follow this thought through at your own leisure and pleasure.

But to return to the objective

of this brief reflection on the Lenten Breakfast Series, may I first of all thank people who made it possible, both in the running of this series and in participating in it diligently. We had an excellent selection of speakers for a start with Dr Nanette Milne MSP, Prof Andrew Morrison of our own Cathedral Music, Prof Ferdinand von Prondzynski, the Principal of RGU and Prof Tom Greggs of Aberdeen University. The depth and breadth of their input will serve the purpose beyond this series when their presentations will be uploaded on the Cathedral website. These presentations were well grounded in the richness of various forms of Eucharistic services and the most tested and tried gem in our Anglican Compline. Thanks to Margaret Byers and Athol Jermison for preparing the Suther Chapel for Liturgy and organising the soup and bread. Thanks to all who took time and effort make and serve the soup and bread. Thank you also to Bill Anderson for

## Discernment – Lenten Breakfast Series

setting up the Chapel with good lighting and gentle music to sustain the worship. One thing that most people in the Cathedral may not be aware of is the attention paid to this series by the Church in Aberdeen and beyond. This was a ground breaking effort which demonstrated that St Andrew's Cathedral is serious about its business of being the disciples of Jesus Christ and be counted. Communal fasting which was part of the Christian tradition had been lost out to those who were diligent. Religious fasting is not the same as fitness exercise. We are intentional in what we do and it will impact our world in which we have not imagined. It was very good to have done this at the beginning of a new era for the church in Aberdeen. Let us wait and see how God will use this beyond what we have witnessed in frailty and humility of our simple offering. Watch the space for the series to appear on the website.

## Mission Impossible I By The Provost

**Target:** Invite the 2,009,084 baptised members of the Episcopal Church (2003) to join St Andrew's Cathedral in Aberdeen in prayer.

**Load:** Invite the Communicant members to contribute One Dollar towards the Development of their 'mother' church.

**Response:** Most people I met with and tested their knowledge of our historical connection confirmed something beyond all doubts that the Samuel Seabury connection with John Skinner does not feature at all in their active memory of the Episcopal Church.

**The Story:** You would recall me asking you to help me share our story with our Episcopalian brothers and sisters across the pond and most of you were extremely helpful. Some of you narrated the stories of the architects who built St Andrew's Church and extended it to make it a cathedral. And others had the

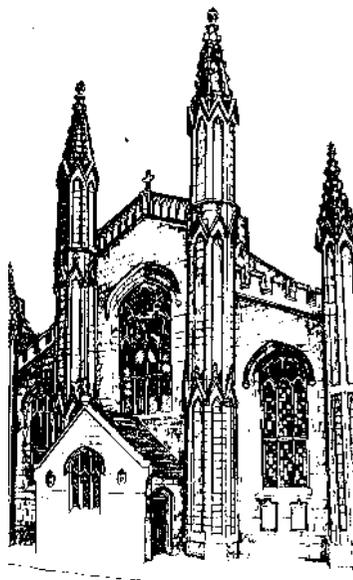
## Mission Impossible I

consecration of Samuel Seabury, the representations of the 48 States on the ceiling and yet others the story of Kennedy connection. I tried using them all and I realised that there is little or no interest. One story that sparked some interest was the story of the Scottish Liturgy. However, when it transpired that the interest of the emerging church within the Episcopal Church is not the technicalities of the liturgy in its historical sense but its significance for the life of the church and the world today. What is St Andrew's Cathedral in Aberdeen doing today that makes a difference to the lives of people within the Church and outside the church, in Aberdeen and beyond? This is what most people I spoke with were interested in.

I had a story that I shared with you at the AGM and at the EGM. The key people who will make any difference to our life and witness today here in Aberdeen were interested in that. It would be good to hear from you now, what do you think we do in our worship and witness

today that makes a difference. How do we justify our existence beyond being the Cathedral Church for the diocese? How does that relate to what we believe?

It looks like we are called to pray for discernment. Please continue in prayer for God's anointing to be witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ.



# Coming home for a cuppa

By The Provost

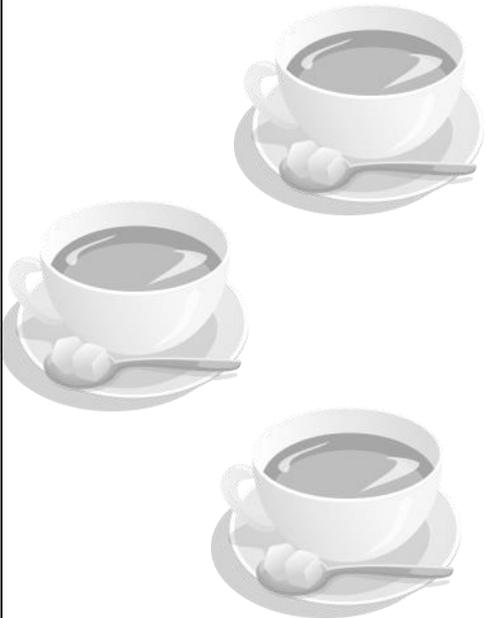
Dear Friends,

I am slow in getting around to knocking on your doors to familiarise myself with those I share my faith and prayer and above all the Holy Sacraments. When I went to meet with the Rector of Trinity Church in Broadway, it was at his office which was like a Corporate Office with over 200 staff. I can hear you say, 'don't get ideas!' I do not intend to nor can we afford. But it is hard to imagine managing such major office and yet keeping an ear to the ground. It is tempting and sadly I am the only fully paid staff and so I need to be the jack of all.

One of the best part of ministry is meeting people in their kitchen or wherever the heart of their home is. This is just a heads up to say that I shall come around to your door when I go past it, and if I do not see you when I call, it would not matter. I shall drop

a note and there will be other occasions no doubt. Alternately, you can invite me!! It is time for me to get down to the real business.

I have met a few of you already in your homes and enjoyed every moment of it, even when I get told off!! Please stop guessing, you know who!?! Those who are at work would be difficult. We shall find a way of working around it.



## Leslie W. Turberville (1922-2016)

By Stuart Donald, March 2016



There were plenty of surprises in the obituary published in the Scotsman giving details of the life and work of Leslie W. Turberville. It was not surprising to read all that he has experienced and accomplished in life, the surprise being that we did not know the early part of the story! Let me tell you what the Scotsman omitted...

Ruby and Leslie Turberville came to the Cathedral, largely because the boys wanted to sing in the Choir, which at that time boasted a large group of boy choristers.

Gradually, the couple integrated into the congregation, and Provost Hodgkinson made one of the most astute moves of his career when in 1968 he appointed Leslie, a back office police superintendant with a law degree to act as Secretary of the Trustees in succession to John Stephen who has just died. Many of the 'deals' that St Andrew's were to negotiate in the next two decades bore the stamp of Leslie's financial acumen.

The most important of these 'deals' was the Restoration scheme that took place from 1983 until 1990. By this time, Provost Howard had appointed Leslie as Treasurer of the cathedral and he was joined by a very charismatic Peoples' Warden and director of the Development Appeal, Stephen Farrand. Both were instrumental in guiding the £<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> million scheme. Leslie also managed to leave a substantial balance in the coffers after all the machinations of finance had completed! But Leslie was not only a financial genius;

## Leslie W. Turberville (1922-2016)

he was a committed churchman who guided his family throughout his life and was a role model for many to follow. A sportsman all his life, the St Andrew's congregation were hardly aware of his prowess in this field as he never spoke about his own achievements. News began to creep out when he was appointed manager of the Swimming Team who attended the Los Angeles Olympic Games. Most of us were unaware of this man's glorious achievements on the sports field and swimming baths; and were certainly unaware of all his war-time exploits. Leslie died on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2016 —RIP.

I could not however end this article without mention of his wife Ruby, [born Robina Watt] who was such a whirlwind of ideas and organisation, from Flower Festivals to fit in with the 1988 Glasgow Garden Festival to starting the Friday Coffee shop recruiting Doris Watson as an assistant. But I will remember her most of all for her personality; always



beaming and ready to lend a hand. As editor of the Woman's Page she made her mark on the Evening Express and Aberdeen Press & Journal. She championed women's rights but remained anti-feminist, stoutly defending a woman's role to support her husband and mother her offspring. In a famous series, she wrote about the Nuns of St Margaret's Convent in the Spital and the good work done amongst orphaned girls at St Martha's Home. She died on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2003 — RIP

Our thoughts are with the Turberville family and we send our sincere condolences to their sons, Eric, Philip and Michael, their wives, the five grandchildren and six great grandchildren!

# Remembering Leslie Turberville

By Sylvia Simpson



I seem to recall being in my Dad's hand walking in town somewhere when I first met Leslie. He was a young married man accompanied by his wife Ruby & a small infant in a high pram, their first born son Eric. As families in St. Mary's Episcopal Church we enjoyed a long association. Ruby (later to become Women's Editor of Aberdeen Journals) sang in the church choir with my Dad (& uncle) and her two brothers. In the next few decades I sat in the choir stalls as did Eric, Philip & Michael the Turberville boys. At that time the Organist &

Choirmaster was my late husband Brian whom I married some years later. When my son Colin was baptised Ruby consented to be his godmother. When we were a young family Leslie & Ruby would often entertain us as well as being guests @ family weddings & baptisms.

Leslie as many Cathedral folk will be aware, was a Trustee & for a period Cathedral Treasurer. His career in Aberdeen City Police Force was indeed a successful one, rising through the ranks from constable in 1946 to Chief Superintendent & Division Commander. I remember being told he was a "bouncer" on Cathedral west door duty on Christmas Eve when in came a few rowdy revellers who decided to create some distraction by entering the Cathedral in full voice. They must have recognised Leslie as they then decided to beat a hasty retreat. Another story via his late wife Ruby....., Leslie as a young

## Remembering Leslie Turberville

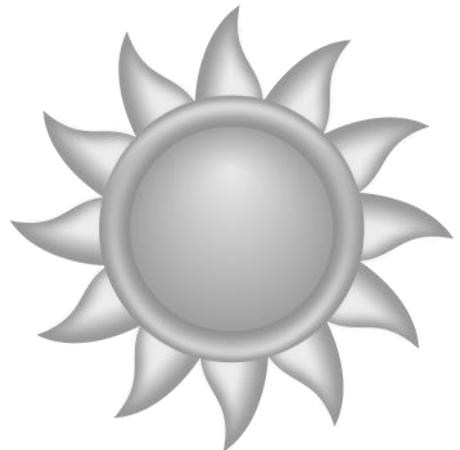
policeman came home one day minus all the front buttons on his tunic. She asked why this had happened. Smiling he replied that he was on point duty @ the junction of St. Nicholas Street with Schoolhill & Upperkirkgate. After directing traffic in one direction he turned swiftly round to attend the adjacent street when a tramcar sped passed. He was obviously too close & ping..... off came the buttons!!

As a schoolboy in Birmingham the city of his birth, Leslie excelled in sport. Captaining the school rugby team as well as gaining his colours in that +swimming (his great love) & cricket. He was also responsible for managing the Olympics Swimming Team as well as his involvement with the Police Sub Aqua Club.

In his war service Leslie served

with the FAA & RNVS. & held the rank of Sub Lieutenant. He had a very colourful war record which involved him in the field of radar usage as well as in flying. Leslie was mentioned in dispatches for his gallantry, thus like many others of his generation served his country well. He is survived by his 3 sons, their wives, grandchildren & great grandchildren.

Leslie I'll miss our long telephone chats. Being one of your friends for so many years has indeed been a privilege.



## Lent, Look and Learn

By F. B. Cal-Anglia



In this season of Lent many churches are involved in an effort to reach out to their congregations on Christian beliefs. The Cathedral Church of St Andrew, Aberdeen includes before the usual service of Compline on a Friday evening, a Lent message based on the theme of Discernment, which I attend and find intriguing listening to the different views given by each Speaker on his or her role in life within each one's interpretation of Discernment.

A group of us on a Tuesday in another Church, St Margaret's Gallowgate, Aberdeen, a Lent message, facilitated by Carole Phelan, is based on

"The Big Silence" a video depicting the progress of five chosen volunteers from different backgrounds, in a Monastery trying to live each day in utter silence. No TV, no mobile for texting as well as no voiced communication by telephone, music only during meals in the restaurant and no conversation among themselves for the duration of eight days. Just absolute silence, in an effort to get closer to God. The only person each can converse is with his or her Spiritual Director.

We are shown a few days only of their progress each time we go there and then we discuss how each individual is handling the situation and how we would feel or react placed in a similar situation. Already they are struggling, one of the five breaks her silence by using her mobile for a conversation with someone, another two meet while out walking and immediately talk.

Gradually each one decides to try welcoming the silence

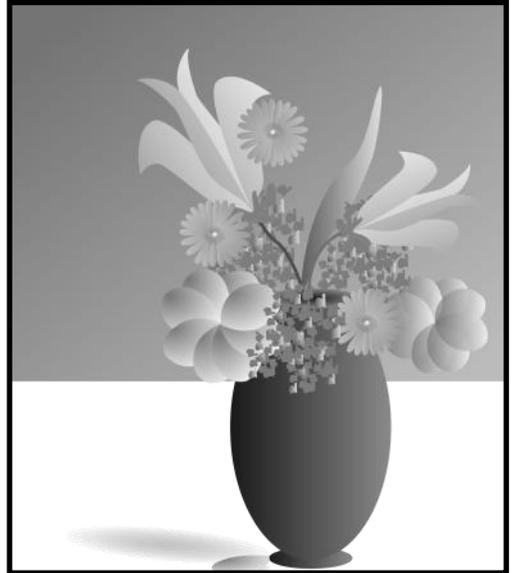
## Lent, Look and Learn

although it is strange how that came about, or maybe God sent. The group meet and discuss their plight and the suggestion is to go to the pub. One of them refuses emphatically for she is more inclined to embrace this challenge of complete silence. Her refusal enables the others to think again to stay where they are and the "Spiritual healing" begins. They are all changed by the end of eight days, one completely committed to God being baptised by full emersion. I am longing to learn how this journey is affecting their return to their busy commitments again.

Can you imagine it, utter silence for eight days in an effort to get closer to God, would you be able to handle this?



## Flowers for Easter



This year we shall again celebrate Easter joy in flowers, after the observance of Lent; the whole Cathedral will show our Easter joy with Spring flowers. The Easter cross is made from the Christmas tree...

Please contribute to this Easter joy by donating to Cathedral flowers: donate by using a Gift Aid envelope in the Cathedral and labelling it "FOR FLOWERS".

Helena Thomas  
Helenathomas26@gmail.com

## Choir News

By Andrew Morrisson

### **Alistair Macdonald**

In early February, Alistair Macdonald celebrated a significant birthday. The occasion was marked in traditional style with a curry next door to the Cathedral after evensong. Alistair selected the music for the service which included Faire is the Heaven by Sir William Harris.

### **Blackburn Cathedral**

In the middle of February the Cathedral Lay Clerks sung the weekend services at Blackburn Cathedral where Ed Jones is now one of the Cathedral's Organists and where Chris Dawson was a chorister. On the Sunday afternoon, the choir was privileged to sing at a service for the Installation of the Archdeacon of Blackburn, the Installation of a Residentiary Canon and the Commissioning of a vision programme manager. The Bishop of Blackburn preached to a full

Cathedral which included over 100 clergy.

The Cathedral is in the final stages of a major redevelopment project which includes the construction of living accommodation for the Dean and Chapter, Cathedral musicians and vergers. As part of the project, a brand new Premier Inn has been built on-site; this is where most of the choir stayed.

As usual a number of former choir members joined us for the occasion and it was a delight that Ed was able to accompany the services on the fine organ. We were made very welcome by the clergy and staff, particularly the Organist Emeritus, Dr John Bertalot, whose Preces and Responses were performed on the Saturday and Sunday. We are grateful to the Trebles for singing the Sunday morning service at St



Members of the Cathedral Choir enjoying well earned-refreshments with Ed Jones in the "Postal Order" beside Blackburn Cathedral.

Andrews, enabling the adults to make this weekend trip during term time.

### **Sad News**

We were saddened to hear that Eric Grove's wife, Sarin, passed away this week after a long illness. Eric joined the Cathedral Choir in 1964 at the same time as Alistair and joined us recently in Aberdeen for Alistair's Birthday celebrations and also for the trip to Blackburn. He asks for your prayers at this sad time.

### **Happy News**

George Chittenden who was Assistant Organist prior to Ed and who is now the Organist of Dunedin Cathedral, New Zealand married Frances last weekend. The Cathedral was represented at the ceremony by Peter and Janice Smail. We wish the couple every happiness for the future.

### **Exciting News**

Our Head Chorister, Lewa Olaosebikan, has been chosen to be one of 60 choristers representing Cathedral Choirs

## Choir News



George Chittenden and his bride Frances.

from across the UK at St Paul's Cathedral (that's the big one in London, not the small one in Dundee) in April. The choristers will sing a concert in St Paul's on Thursday 27th April. The press release for the event states: "To help raise funds to ensure that the nation's world-renowned cathedral music is preserved for the future, the Friends of Cathedral Music is kick-starting a £10m fund with

a national concert at St Paul's Cathedral, where the resident choir will be joined by a cathedral chorister from the majority of the nation's cathedrals, some 60 in all. The combination of the 60 cathedral choristers and St Paul's choir will provide a unique and glorious sound as well as memorable performances of well known music..."

We wish Lewa well in this exciting opportunity!

Participating choristers are asked to raise funds towards the cost of their travel and accommodation in London, so that as much of the profits as possible go to the new Fund. So if you would like to get involved with some fund-raising, please do so and speak to Andrew or Claire. Classic FM will be promoting the concert on the radio and on their website from the end of March and

## Choir News

tickets can be purchased via this website. The website will also show pictures of the event afterwards, so please visit it to find out more and keep in touch.

### Outreach

The Trebles sang for a short service of worship at the Rubislaw Park Care Home at the end of January. The service was led by the Provost. The care home residents were pleased to see the children in their choir robes and appreciated their musical contribution to the service. Two more visits are planned before the summer break.

## Sunday Lottery Update

By Christine Flett

28th February is the end of the financial year for the Sunday Lottery. I am very pleased to report that the Lottery this year has raised £1207. During the year it was decided by the Trustees that this money will now be donated to the Restoration Fund and was

## Sunday Lottery Update

divided as follows:-

March - May           £328.50

April - February     £878.50

Total           £1207.00

Thank you all for taking part.

## Congregational Mailing List

If you'd like to be added to the St Andrew's Cathedral Congregational Mailing List to receive official Cathedral emails, please send a blank email to:

standrewscongregation  
+subscribe@googlegroups.  
com

You'll then receive an invitation email from standrewscongregation@googlegroups.com

Please accept this invitation and add the email address to your safe senders list. If you don't receive the email, don't forget to check your Junk Mail folder. Alternatively, or if you're having problems, please contact Derek Elliott-Jones at elliotdm@hotmail.com or 07779 173 178.

The AGM held on February was well attended. The main outcome of the meeting was the decision to carry on with the programme already arranged until the Diocesan meeting in May when we should know more about the future reorganisation of Mothers' Union throughout the diocese. The meeting was followed by a very successful bring and buy sale and many thanks to all those who so generously "brought and bought".

### **Looking ahead**

Tuesday March 29th at 2pm the members will be packing bags of toiletries for the Women's refuge and the hospital. All contributions welcome.

The disappointing news is that the theatre trip planned for April 9th is postponed but watch this space for later plans.

The Spring party is also on hold but instead there will be a summer party to celebrate the Queen's birthday on June

7th at 2 pm. Details later. Instead on April 26th at 2 pm in the JSC there will be a discussion on the "Meaning of Mothers' Union" and also planning for the summer party. The Diocesan meeting will take place on Thursday May 19th. The venue will be announced later.

Following this meeting the Branch will meet on Saturday May 28th at 10am in JSC to discuss the outcome of the Diocesan meeting.

St James are holding a Lady Day service on Wednesday April 6th at 10.30 am to which all are invited.

Annual Subscriptions for 2016 are now overdue. Could members who have not paid and wish to continue supporting the work of the mothers union please give me their £20 as soon as possible. Thank you.

Moira Middleton (Branch  
Treasurer)

## Car Parking Update

By Claire Morrisson

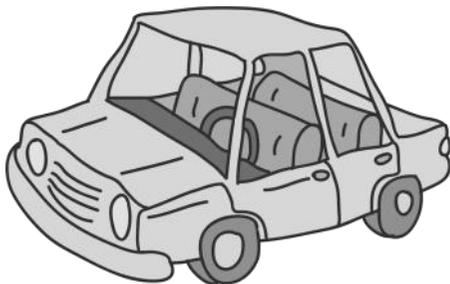


We now have a barrier at the entrance to the JSC car park. It is large, heavy and difficult to open and close, as several of you have already pointed out to me. So here is the plan:

For the moment we will leave the barrier up. Its presence has reduced the amount of unauthorised parking, although the effect may be temporary as people get used to it. We will also change the signage on both car parks, to include a warning that the barriers may be locked at any time without prior notice. Meanwhile, we will prepare to lock the barrier to the JSC car part for a limited period (e.g. one week) if it ceases to be an effective deterrent. After that period we will try leaving it up again, until a second closure becomes necessary.

If the barrier has to be locked, it will be down except at times when there are scheduled events in the cathedral or JSC. The barrier will be raised for these events, which requires one or two able-bodied people to be on hand to unlock and lift it at the beginning of the open period and shut and lock it at the end. In a routine week, we have identified the list of events below for which the barrier should be raised. If you attend any of these events and are able to come early to lift the barrier and/or leave late to lower it again, please contact the cathedral office to volunteer. If there are other weekly events, please let the office know.

Sunday: Open from 8 am to approx 1 pm for morning services.



## Car Parking Update

Sunday: Open from 5:15 pm to approx 7.30 pm for evening service.

Monday: Open am for cleaners.

Tuesday: Open evening for Fellowship Group.

Wednesday: Open from approx 9.30 am to approx 1 pm for service and cleaning.

Thursday: Open from 5.30 pm to 8 pm for choir practice.

Friday: Open from approx 9.30 am to 1 pm for coffee shop.

Saturday: Open from approx 10 am to 1.30 pm for lunchtime recital.

We realise there could be one or two occasional events during the 'closed' week and we would deal with these at the time.

In addition to the 'open' periods, a key would always be available in the JSC so that it could be opened at any time during the week for deliveries etc. provided someone present at the cathedral had a JSC key.

## Informal Summary of the Trustees Meeting on 3 Feb 2016

### **1) Maintenance**

Mark Edwards has arranged for a second roofer (Cheyne Roofing) to inspect the cathedral roof on 4th February.

### **2) Review of Contract for Financial Support with Johnston Carmichael**

Claire Morrisson and Mark Edwards had both used JC's services and were satisfied with the advice and support they provided. The contract can be terminated by either side giving one month's notice in writing. The Trustees agreed to continue the contract for 2016.

### **3) Update on Grant Applications**

Mark Edwards has agreed to prepare and submit the grant applications to Listed Places of Worship: Roof Repair Fund and Grants for Places of Worship (Scotland) on a voluntary basis. The Trustees expressed their warmest gratitude and appreciation to him for this extremely generous gesture. Mark reported that the deadline for the Roof Repair Fund application is imminent. Mark and Isaac have informed the Edinburgh

architect (John Sanders) that we propose to appoint a local architect to assist us. He agrees that this is a sensible idea, therefore Isaac has approached James Roy to assist in the application process. He has recently been involved with the St John's and Queen's Cross church developments. If the application is successful, the repair work will have to be put out to competitive tender under the terms of the grant.

#### **4) The Rectory**

Isaac informed the Trustees that his family cannot remain in 15 Ashley Road (the St John's Rectory) after the end of March. The Trustees have received a verbal offer of £330,000 for the Grandholm Rectory, but this is subject to the interested party selling their own house. The Trustees agreed to inform Peterkins that we are prepared to drop the price of the Grandholm Rectory to a minimum of £350,000 and to give Isaac leave to seek suitable rented accommodation in the centre

of town, up to a cost in the order of £1500 per month.

#### **5) Follow up from the 31st January EGM**

- a) The Trustees noted the concerns voiced by some of the congregation after the meeting on the format of the Congregational Consultation.
- b) The Trustees agreed to set up a small working group to review the constitution and propose revisions to bring it in line with the Provincial template. This will be chaired by Isaac and include Derek Elliott-Jones and Anne Harper.

#### **6) Dates of regular meetings in 2016:**

Wednesday 9th March,  
Wednesday 20th April,  
Wednesday 1st June,  
Wednesday 24th August,  
Wednesday 5th October.  
Additional meetings will be required in October and November to prepare and review annual accounts and reports in preparation for the AGM.

Claire Morrisson  
Provost's Warden  
On behalf of the Trustees

## Warden's Corner

By Mark Edwards (Peoples Warden)

I'd like to open this month by offering my belated, but nonetheless sincere "Thanks" to you for your nomination and appointment of me to again represent the whole congregation of St. Andrew's. It is an honour and privilege to serve you and I am indebted to you for your continued words of support and encouragement. As always, I will endeavour to hear and act on your concerns and to represent you to the best of my abilities.

As many of you will know I have recently moved house to start a new phase of my life with Wendy in Inverbervie. Unfortunately the move coincided with the submission date for last month's Focus, hence my absence from it!! A number of boxes remain, but we are getting there!!

I also missed, with regret, the Congregational meeting. I have been made aware of the concerns raised through that process and I can assure

you that they are the subject of continued deliberation and consideration. Part of this wider conversation has been around the Project and how we can focus our energies in making real progress. There is a real sense that the time for talking has past and that we now need action!

That has been brought into sharp focus again with continued/renewed ingress of water into the Cathedral, the failure of parts of the sound system and continued problems with the lighting, amongst others! The latter two are being addressed by the Trustees, but I would like specifically to talk a little about the roof and measures being taken to ensure its integrity. Without that there is little point expending resources and energy on the internal fabric. I would like to share with you elements of a report that I have passed to the Trustees, which will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting. Through discussion and

## Warden's Corner

mutual agreement we have recently engaged a new, locally-based Architect, Mr James Roy. Mr Roy has extensive experience within the north-east, across multiple denominations and, critically, has a track-record of securing grant awards for funding. I had the privilege and pleasure to accompany him on an inspection of the roof of the Cathedral when our roofing contractors were onsite to affect an inspection of the roof and resulting maintenance works. James' report is obviously technical in nature so I have taken the liberty to paraphrase his findings for the sake of brevity; a copy of his Report may be viewed in the office upon request.

On the whole, the roof is in reasonable condition; I was certainly expecting to see a lot worse given some of the interim reports we have received. There are a few damaged slates on the pitched roof above the Nave and Aisles, though none of this

damage appears to account for the water ingress. There is also a degree of debris that has accumulated in the valley gutters and this will be causing ponding to occur which may be forcing water upwards under the slates in places. Discussions have also been had with the Contractor about the efficiency of the downpipes to actually remove the vast quantities of water during storm events. Work will continue to evaluate this.

Two concerns are highlighted that would allow water ingress. There is a considerable amount of moss growth around inspection hatches and along the various lead valley gutters. Where this moss has bridged the physical barriers to water flow it allows the movement of water to places where we do not want it. This is especially true around the inspection hatches – which just so happen to be above where we have ingress in the Lady Chapel and the South Aisle!! All of the moss has been removed.



Fig 1: Moss and debris accumulation in the valley gutters. Looking towards the west gable on the nave roof.

*Photo courtesy of G. Cheyne, Roofing Contractors*



Fig 2: Cracking at the joints between the stone, lead flashings and the lime-mortar infill.

*Photo courtesy of G. Cheyne, Roofing Contractors*

Secondly we can see that areas of mortar infill have come away from the stonework and lead flashings due to differential expansion and contraction. The lime-based mortar used in the restoration some 8 years ago was mandated by the Grant awarding body and not due to decisions made by ourselves or the Contractor at the time. Again, such breaches in the integrity of the drainage system will allow water ingress and will need to be resolved.

It is the opinion of the Architect that the scope of work needed is not sufficient to attract grant funding; these works will be completed from within our Budget. Accordingly the planned application has been suspended; work is continuing to consult with the Heritage Lottery to determine how best to frame our application for the more substantial works in the wider Project. I will of course keep you updated.

## Warden's Corner

So may the storms abate and the sun continue to shine so that we can get back on to the roof and complete the remedial works as planned!

I'm sorry that this is a long update and I appreciate that Focus is not the appropriate method to communicate Project updates to you. In the future I will post updates to the Project board and will develop other methods of communication to keep you fully informed of progress.

I'd like to end, as I started, on a personal note. With my move to the south of the County I will not be able to be in the Cathedral as frequently as I have been. I have discussed this with Isaac and with the Trustees and assured them that I will continue to be available by phone or e-mail when I am not with you in the Cathedral. Likewise, I can assure you of my continued dedication to the Office to which you have appointed me.

## Holy Week Services

### **Thursday 24 March – Maundy**

#### **Thursday:**

11:30am: Chrism Mass  
(Diocesan event)

### **Friday 25 March – Good**

#### **Friday:**

12:00 Noon to 3:00pm: 3  
Hours Devotions led by the  
Rev Canon Lisa Eunson  
(Diocesan event)

8:00pm: Good Friday  
Tenebrae

### **Saturday 26 March – Holy**

#### **Saturday:**

12:00 Noon: Cathedral at  
Noon Concert with Tenebrae  
Music

8:00pm: Lighting of the  
Paschal Candle

### **Sunday 27 March – Easter**

#### **Sunday:**

10:45am: Sung Eucharist  
6:30pm: Choral Evensong

# March Diary



## Weekly Services

Wednesdays at 10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sundays at 8.00 am	Holy Communion (1970 Liturgy)
Sundays at 10.45 am	Sung Eucharist (1982 Liturgy) followed by coffee in the JSC
Sundays at 10.45 am	Crèche available in the JSC
Sundays at 6.30 pm	Choral Evensong

## Weekly Events

Tuesdays at 6.00 pm	Fellowship, JSC
Fridays 10.00 am to 12 noon	Cathedral Coffee Shop (Teas/ Coffees, and a whole range of homebaking, as well as sandwiches available)
Saturdays at 12 noon	Cathedral at Noon (30 minute recital followed by refreshments)

### **Cathedral at Noon - March**

12 Mar	Andrew Morrisson, Bach Chorale Preludes for Passiontide
19 Mar	Mhairi Sharp, Music for Soprano with Flute
26 Mar	Cathedral Choir, Tenebrae: Choral Music for Holy Week
2 Apr	Ngoni Masiyakurima, Music for Solo Piano

All are welcome to attend the Cathedral at Noon performances held every Saturday at noon! This is a free event, with a light lunch provided afterwards.

# Upcoming Concert

## **Brahms, *Ein deutsches Requiem***

Con Anima Chamber Choir and Orchestra  
Conductor: John Frederick Hudson

**Saturday, 19 March at 8 pm**  
**St Machar's Cathedral**

Tickets available from the Aberdeen Box Office  
or from Regina.



**The deadline for the April  
issue of Focus will be the 31st of  
March.**

Please send your articles  
to Amber at  
[a.shadle.07@aberdeen.ac.uk](mailto:a.shadle.07@aberdeen.ac.uk),  
or hand them in to the Cathedral  
office.

Many thanks to all those who contributed to make this  
issue of the Focus Magazine possible!

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