

News at Wardie



www.wardie.org.uk

November 2018

From War to Peace



The numbers are staggering. One of Europe's most intense and what turned out to be her worst year, 1914, led to a global war that caused human-made devastation and suffering on a scale that is still difficult to comprehend little more than 100 years later. The numbers provided by the Robert Schuman European Centre (CERS) speak for themselves: The total number of military and civilian casualties in World War I was around 40 million. There were 20 million deaths and 21 million wounded. The total number of deaths includes 9.7 million military personnel and about 10 million civilians. The Entente Powers (also known as the Allies) lost about 5.7 million soldiers while the Central Powers lost about 4 million. The numbers suggest that there were no winners on either side of "the Great War". Tragically it did not turn out to be "the war to end all wars".

100 years have passed since the World War I ended on the 11th of November. Armistice Day was initially nothing more than what it means in the literal sense of the word, namely an agreement between those at war with each other to stop fighting for a limited time. On the 11th hour of the 11th month in 1918, those who had been engaged in war understood that it was time to talk peace. It was not easy and required goodwill on all sides. Three times the armistice had to be renewed before the Peace Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

There is never time to celebrate war. 100 years later and we still have not managed to establish lasting peace, in fact every new war confronts us with unspeakable crimes against humanity. Indeed, the armed conflict in Kosovo was unfolding while the Welsh composer Karl Jenkins composed his Mass For Peace, "The Armed Man". A choir that was especially formed for the Centenary Remembrance Service at Wardie Parish Church on the 11th of November at 10.30am will sing the Benedictus and Agnus Dei of this Mass. The Service is entitled "Listening to Different Voices". Like the Mass of Peace, the service invites us to reflect on the voices that speak of the horrors of war, of suffering and courage to defeat war, voices that call on us to work for a peaceful future on a global scale.

Robert Schuman took considerable risks in overcoming the hostility and bitterness still felt by many 5 years after World War II had ended. In his declaration of 9 May 1950, he explains a principle which he believed to be crucial in the pursuit of peace: "World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers which threaten it."

The pursuit of peace is not only the responsibility of musicians like Jenkins or politicians like Schuman. None of those who fought during the First World War would have wanted wars to continue. They fought for peace. For a life in dignity, humanity. They would have applauded the Nobel Peace Prize Winners Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad for their work, their courage, their perseverance to make known and end the cruelty unleashed in modern warfare.

It is a civil duty and certainly a Christian vocation to work for peace, not to take peace for granted but to play our part. Karl Jenkins through his music reaches out to people of other faiths and cultures. Robert Schuman based his work on the principles of reconciliation, solidarity and peace.

This November and beyond, can we follow their example, so that in 1 or 10 or 100 years, others can listen to voices telling stories of how to make and keep peace?

Let this be our duty and hope,

Ute

Coming Soon ...

Alternative Christmas Gifts 2018

Network will sell these at coffee time every Sunday until Christmas from 4th November. This year we are supporting:

SolarAid: A solar lamp does more than shine a light. Having free, clean light and not wasting money on kerosene transforms people's chances in life. Operates in Malawi, Uganda and Zambia.

SightSavers: Treating and protecting against River blindness in Ghana and Uganda

Circle Scotland: Working at the heart of deprived communities across central Scotland. Our aim is to support the most disadvantaged children and families to improve their lives, promote their healthy development and reach their potential.

Social Bite: Social Bite is on a mission to bring Scotland together to build a collaborative movement to end homelessness here.

Please support these very important causes. All gifts will help raise funds for people in need.



News at Wardie, November 2018

The Newsletter of Wardie Parish Church

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News at Wardie can be received by post, at a cost of £6.00 a year. Apply to the church office

To Absent Friends

Every year from 1st to 7th November there is a Scottish event entitled To Absent Friends (for more details see www.toabsentfriends.org.uk). During this week Wardie Church will be open on **Thursday 1st November, from 10am to 12noon, 2pm to 4pm, 6pm to 8pm, and Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November from 10am to 12noon** for people to be able to come, if they so wish, and spend a quiet time reflecting on their dear ones who are no longer with them. Please ring the bell at the Netherby Road entrance to the halls for access. There will be a table next to the Book of Remembrance in the Sanctuary. Congregation members are invited to put memorabilia of those no longer with them on the table, or perhaps just write the name of their absent friend on a remembrance symbol which will then be displayed near the table.

The minister will be available on **Thursday 1st between 11am and 12noon** if anyone would like to speak to her.

During the week there will be an exhibition in the Main Hall supplied by 'Good life, Good death, Good grief'.



Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal, 2018

Thank you to those of you who have already filled a shoe box and those who are filling one as we read!

Once again our master shoe box "coverer", Barbara, has done a wonderful job in not only finding shoe boxes for us but covering them so perfectly. Thank you, Barbara.

The last day for handing in shoe boxes is **Sunday November 4th**.

Kate Clegg

Prayer Corner

*"We do not want you to be uninformed ...
you may not grieve as others do who have no hope."
1 Thessalonians 4:13*

Make no mistake, Christians grieve every bit as much as those with no living faith. Faith in itself cannot take away the pain of losing someone we love, yet it does provide hope in the midst of grief. Hope is the enabling force which keeps us from thinking that death is the end

O God, be with all who sorrow today;
those who have lost someone
or something they cherish dearly.
those who will cry themselves to sleep tonight,
those who feel you are far away,
those who cannot accept what has happened to them
or their loved one,
those who cannot weep
but can only bottle things up inside.

Help them to see that we do not stay
in the valley of tears for ever,
and that you are beside us when we walk through it,
to comfort and to lead us to the sunlight beyond.

*"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."
Psalm 30 v. 5*

Mollie Fowler

***** **NEW** *****

Advent Group

Precious time to slow down
and reflect in a peaceful setting

Exploring different ways of praying
with meditative music.

Monday 3rd, 10th, 17th December
New Hall, Wardie Parish Church
7 to 8pm.

Please contact the church office if interested:
churchoffice@wardie.org.uk
or 0131 551 3847

WARDIE GUILD

Our special fundraiser in aid of our Guild Projects is on **Wednesday 7th November** in the church and is called **Autumn Leaves**. Judith Gardner Jones, a wonderful soprano, will give us a taste of everything from the Classics to the Shows accompanied by Margaret Donaldson. As this is an open Guild meeting, **everyone is very welcome to come along**. There are no tickets but there will be a collection at the end of the concert.

Two weeks later on **21st November** I will be showing a PowerPoint Presentation on **The Beauty of Nature** with lovely photos and music, which I hope you will all enjoy!

As this is the November Newsletter I will just mention our **Christmas Lunch on 12th December at 12.30pm** ... another date for your diary!

Wendy Sodergren

Youth Choir: Getting Ready for Christmas!

Christmas is an important time for music at Wardie, especially for the Youth Choir. We are having a short break at the moment, but will meet again on **Sunday 11th November** (9.45am as usual) to start preparing lovely music to perform through the Christmas period. Most importantly we will play a big part in the Nativity Play service on **16th December**.

Even if you don't normally come to choir you would be most welcome to join us on some or all of the Sundays below - help make a really joyful sound this festive season.

Practices will be on 11th, 18th and 25th November, and 2nd, 9th and 16th December.

Thank you,
Alison Preston

Wardie Walkers

Wednesday 31st October

Meet Clark Road cycle path entrance at 10am for buses to **Balerno: Malleny Garden, Harlaw Reservoir & Visitor Centre, and Currie**. Bring waterproof clothes, stout shoes and a packed lunch. Led by Rosemary Philip and Richard Waller.

Wednesday 14th November

Meet Clark Road cycle path entrance at 10am. Walk on the **Braid Hills**. Bring waterproof clothes, stout shoes and a packed lunch. Led by Richard Waller.



Network's Wee Sleep Out



Network Youth Group at Wardie are sleeping outside on the night of **9th November** for The Wee Sleep Out event organised by Social Bite as part of Scotland's Year of Young People. We will be raising funds towards helping Social Bite to End Homelessness in Scotland for Good! Please support us as we brave the outdoors for one night and help us make a difference.

We would value *your* support.

If you would like to help in a practical way you can: come and join us sleeping out in Wardie Church garden; join us for the evening any time between 8pm and 11pm; help with food preparation for the evening; help with bacon butties at 6am on the Saturday morning!

Donations of money can be made via:
<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/janescott2>



OPEN DOOR at WARDIE PARISH CHURCH

A monthly opportunity for people from the local community to meet and enjoy each other's company, welcome newcomers to the district, or keep in touch with old friends.

Meetings are at 7.30pm, usually in the small hall and open to all ages and sexes.

Monday 26th November:
St Columba's Hospice: recent developments

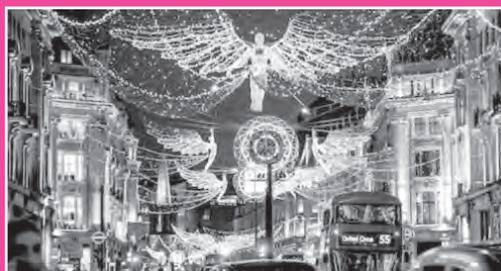
Contact person: Christine Shepherd

Worship at Wardie, November 2018

4th	10.30am	Morning Service
7th	8.30pm	Midweek Prayer, no Communion
11th	10.30am	Centenary Remembrance Service "Listening To Different Voices" with music from The Armed Man – A Mass For Peace by Karl Jenkins
14th	8.30pm	Midweek Communion
18th	10.30am	Morning Service
	3.00pm	Messy Church "Peace and Comfort"
21st	No Midweek Communion or Prayer due to Kirk Session	
25th	10.30am	Morning Service
28th	8.30pm	Midweek Communion

Drop-in Advent

Saturday 1st December, 3–5pm, Wardie Church



Christmas is coming. Let's start in style!

- Discover your green fingers making Advent logs
 - Engage in Advent and Christmas crafts
- Catch some peaceful moments in the church
 - Listen to Advent music
 - Explore meditative Advent stations
 - Enjoy a chat in our Advent café
 - Taste freshly made waffles

Entrance free, donations and people of all ages welcome.
Entrance at the red Netherby Road Door.

"On the Lookout For Christmas"

Advent Service for Seniors 2018



Come and join us for
A short service on the 2nd of Advent
at Wardie Parish Church

Sunday 9th December at 3pm

followed by seasonal refreshments in the Hall.

All Seniors, with family members and friends are welcome!
For further information, if you need transport or know someone
who would like to come, please contact Catriona at the church
office on 0131 551 3847 or churchoffice@wardie.org.uk.

This service aims to be dementia friendly.

NEW Living Advent Calendar



You know the chocolate or paper Advent Calendars which you can buy. Each calendar has 24 doors or windows. Each day, starting on the 1st of December, you open a new door to find a surprise, usually a sweet and a picture. Advent Calendars were originally meant for children to make it easier for them to wait for Christmas.

But what is a Living Advent Calendar?

The idea originated in Sweden. Every evening, people are invited to gather for 10 to maximum 20 minutes at a different place in the community where either a window or door has been decorated as part of the Living Advent Calendar. This can range from simply displaying the number on the venue to more extravagant displays. All gather outside what can be a school door, a garage door, the door of a sports club or a shop window or a private home.

It all begins with a seasonal song (song sheets are provided). The host or organiser then opens the door or window to reveal a "surprise" or small presentation which helps to enter into the spirit of the season. This can be in form of a poem, a short story or a reflection on a news item. It could be a short performance of a piece of (live or recorded) music. Some simply choose to explain the idea behind the display in the window or at the door. The surprises are as varied as the hosts. Some are kept very simple to remind us of the simplicity that surrounded the first Christmas. Others are more elaborate. The host does not have to provide any food or drink but can do so if they wish.

A Living Advent Calendar is not about chocolate but about people. It's about the opportunity to take a moment each day to look forward to Christmas and to meet for a short time together with others who are doing the same.

Would you like to host one of the doors or windows? Then please contact the church office (churchoffice@wardie.org.uk or 0131 551 3847) for more information. You would need to agree to have the venue published so that people know where and when to go.

Would you like to come to one, some or all Living Advent Calendar events? The timetable and map will be produced and published in the December newsletter and on our website.

Ute Jaeger-Fleming, Minister

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for contributions for the December edition of News at Wardie: Sunday 11th November

Please send contributions to Cathy Ballantine at news@wardie.org.uk

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