

# News at Wardie



www.wardie.org.uk

April 2019

## THE EASTER RIDDLE



First impressions can sometimes be misleading. When we think of Afghanistan, we mostly think of war, bombs shattering lives of soldiers and civilians, we think of fundamentalists and the Taliban. We may also think of Davy and Ally, the main characters in the musical *Sunshine on Leith*, who on return from Afghanistan have to relearn

how to live in Edinburgh after serving in a country where death could be just around the corner.

But Afghanistan is more than a place of misery and a place to be escaped from. Its culture stretches far back to 500 BC. It is well known for its poetry written by men and women for many centuries, for its use of proverbs to make a point and for its folk stories, to entertain and educate.

Meet one of the best known characters of Afghan folklore, the wise Nasrudin who was also an ingenious smuggler. Every day, Nasrudin was crossing the Afghan border with his donkey who carried a load of straw on his back. When the custom officers asked him whether he had anything to declare, he would answer: "Nothing but straw". Since Nasrudin did not make a secret of making a living out of smuggling, and not a bad one, he was always stopped and searched at the border check. But no matter how hard the officials looked, they never discovered what the wise man was hiding from them. They were clearly missing something and failed solve the riddle. Can you guess what Nasrudin failed to declare?

When we read the Easter story according to Luke's gospel, we may feel left perplexed like the officials at the border crossing. Luke tells the story how the women came to the tomb on Easter morning only to find that the stone had been rolled away with the dead body of Jesus missing. As though this was not enough of a riddle, two men appeared out of the blue, asking the seekers: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."

When they finally remembered that Jesus had not made a secret of both his death and resurrection, they went to share the news with the other followers. But nobody believed them. Their words "seemed to be an idle tale", Luke writes. The disappearance of the body was a riddle that could not be explained. The resurrection stories leave us laughing at the first witnesses. They failed to see the obvious. In this they were not unlike the custom officials who couldn't see what Nasrudin was smuggling under their nose.

Years later, after the chief of customs had long retired, he met Nasrudin by chance in a teahouse. "Tell me, friend", he said, "all these years we knew you were up to something,



but no matter how much we searched, we could never find anything. Since we are both old now, can you tell me what it was you were smuggling?" "Donkeys", came the answer.

We may not meet with the risen Christ in the same way the people did whom he met on the first Easter morning and the days that followed. But there are signs all around us where his power is at work. We don't need to look far. The clue is in the Proclaimers song:

Your beauty and kindness  
 Made tears clear my blindness  
 While the Chief puts sunshine on Leith  
 I'll thank Him for His work  
 And your birth and my birth

May we keep our eyes and minds open to see the sun shine on our streets this Easter,

*Ute*

## Wardie Parish Church Annual Holiday Club

Join us in an action-packed holiday club with animal projects, games, crafts, upcycling, drama, music and many donkey tales.



**ON THE TRAIL OF THE DONKEY**

**Monday, 8th April to Friday, 12th April 2019**

daily between 10 am and 12 noon at Wardie Church, Main Hall for primary school aged children

**£25 per child per week (£15 per extra sibling)**

**Registration forms from the office**

**or [www.wardie.org.uk](http://www.wardie.org.uk)**

Further details: [youthwork@wardie.org.uk](mailto:youthwork@wardie.org.uk)



# News at Wardie, April 2019

## The Newsletter of Wardie Parish Church

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*News at Wardie can be received by post, at a cost of £7.50 a year. Apply to the church office*

### 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, 29th April New Hall 7.30pm**  
**Digging up your roots: Rosemary Philip.**  
**All welcome.**

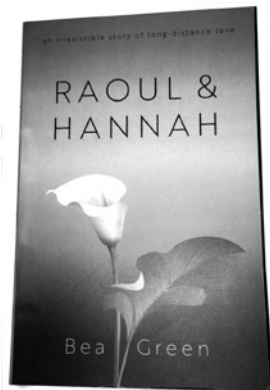
### Book Corner

#### Raoul & Hannah by Bea Green

*Last edition we reviewed 'Down to the Sea' by Sue Lawrence.*

*We have another author in our midst at Wardie.*

*Bea Green, who, along with her husband and two teenage daughters, joined Wardie Church a few years ago, has written her first novel.*



The book is about two young people, Raoul and Hannah. They're from completely different backgrounds, but do a lot of their growing up together. Raoul is a Mexican boy who hails from a poor district of Mexico City; his mother is maid to the family of a British Diplomat, posted in Mexico. Hannah is one of the family's three children.

I found it interesting to get an insight into life in the Diplomatic Service. All the travelling and entertaining sounds glamorous, but it has its challenges. It can be unsettling for all the family. The children have to endure long separations from their parents, some going away to boarding school and, even when they're living in the same house, the parents are both expected to spend a lot of time socialising and networking.

I was also interested to read about the strong mutual respect and loyalty between the maid and the family - the children were often closer to the maid than to their parents. All in all it's a good read, and I would recommend it to you.

*Ann Esslemont*

### Prayer Corner

*Look up at the sky and down at the ground.  
What are the silent voices of God's creation telling you?*

*Jesus rides into Jerusalem. Luke 19: 28-44*

*I am the stones. I am rough, low-down, disregarded.*

*Travellers wend their way down the Mount of Olives, looking for their first glimpse of Jerusalem and the golden Gate. They do not look at the ground, so they do not see me: it's a blessing and a curse. I am unique, but indistinguishable, except for the discomfort I cause.*

*And no one sees me.*

*But I see them: their feet dusty, callused and hardened, their donkeys weighed down by baggage. And today I am covered by a coat!*

*But there's good reason: this procession is grand, this arrival significant.*

*I can hear the whoops of excitement for the Deliverer-King and I, who appear to have no voice, whom others think of as dead, hard and unmoving, I am shouting too.*

*But I can hear something else: the cynical drawing of breath by men who think they know better, and a king's pained words of love.*

*And I can feel something too: long robes flapping ostentatiously, while a man's hot tears fall on stony ground.*

*And I, whose birth seems lost in the beginning of time, and who may outlast them all, recognise the Christ and sing for Him.*

*(Daily Bread, April 2004)*

*Lord God,*

*Thank you for Jesus who came into Jerusalem on a donkey so that no one was forced to follow him.*

*We think of the pain and the loneliness he suffered for our sake and still he forgave the people who put him to death and died without hate for anyone. We remember how often we have failed you and we are very sorry.*

*We thank you for Jesus who gave us bread and wine as signs that his love and strength would be with us always.*

*Most of all, we thank you that Jesus rose from the dead to show that your love can never be destroyed.*

*Lord, thank you for Jesus.*

*Amen*

*Mollie Fowler*

## Newhaven Connections Café

*Food for body, mind and soul (and Newhaven's best kept secret!)*

**Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10am–3pm**



This lovely community café has been serving good, affordable food in the heart of Newhaven for over 12 years. We offer excellent coffee, fair-trade teas, and great food all made with love (breakfast, lunch, snacks, scrumptious home baking and much more). Our range now includes gluten-free/dairy-free/vegan choices and takeaway options are also available.

The café is spacious, child-friendly, and easily accessible for buggies or wheelchairs. There is free on-street parking, a disabled parking bay right outside the entrance, and bus stops are just a few metres away. So if you're fed up, lonely, have time to fill between the school runs, or if you just feel like a coffee and a Danish, then follow the path up the side of the old church at 7 Craighall Road and pop in, where a warm welcome and good food await you. We're a hidden gem...but once you've found us you'll be glad you did!

There's always something going on at the café...pop-up stalls selling cards, books and gifts at Easter and Christmas, art exhibitions featuring local artists, drop-in sessions with our community police team, great value Meal Deals, and themed eats & treats to celebrate special events. Since March we've also been selling wonderful free-range eggs delivered direct from the farm gate every week (just £1 for 6 large eggs...a cracking deal!).

*Keep in touch with all our news and offers on Facebook:  
@newhavenconnections.*

## Wardie Walkers

*Wednesday, 10th April  
Visit to Stirling Castle*

Meet at Clark Road cycle path entrance at 10.00 a.m. for travel by bus/train. Bring warm clothes, stout shoes and a packed lunch if desired.

**Contact  
William Thomas**



## Quiet Day – a personal reflection

On Saturday, 16th March, 20 people met together for a quiet day arranged by the Council of Churches in Inverleith St Serfs church for five hours of reflection, fellowship, meditation, poetry, a labyrinth. There were various ways of using music, hands and eyes to help us think and ponder on all that we have from God – all in silence. It was lovely to take time out from a frantic week to stop and enjoy the moment.

Thank you to Helen, Lynne and Nicola who were our guides and Lorna who provided lunch and refreshments.

*Barbara Purdie*

## GENTLE WALKING 2019

The first of these walks took place on Friday, 22nd February with 16 people enjoying a guided Snowdrop and Spring Flower Tour around the Botanical Gardens. It suited a wide range of abilities with one adventurous person even negotiating the slopes of the rockery in a borrowed motorised scooter! A good number stayed on for a light lunch in the John Hope Gateway café and the morning was voted a huge success.

The next gentle walk is planned for the morning of **Friday, 10th May** when we will visit Inverleith Park and then have coffee in nearby Stockbridge House.

Ideas for future walks include Portobello, Cramond and Lauriston Castle.

*For further details and transport arrangements  
please contact Fiona Campbell on  
fionacampbell28@gmail.com*

## Wardie Guild

**Spring Sale and Coffee Morning in Aid of our Projects**

**Wednesday, 3rd April**

**10am–12 noon**

**Tickets price £2.50**

**Including tea, coffee, juice and biscuits  
Home baking! Quizzes!**



**Stalls include:**

Bric a brac ♦ Baking and Produce  
Books and CDs ♦ Toys ♦ Plants



## Wardie in Action

In the morning of **Sunday, 28th April** we will have our Annual Congregational Meeting. Come and hear about our new Development Plan and our finances. You can also visit displays by all the different teams about the work they do. This is a great chance to find out about what is going on and to get more involved.

### NETWORK REPORT ON YOUTH EMMAUS 22nd–24th February



We spent the weekend in Cairneyhill on a 'Beauty' themed weekend. Over the whole weekend we explored lots of different aspects of beauty and how it can be perceived. The activities were varied and interesting and I learned a lot. We gave some interesting makeovers, got soaked by the rain, took two cows to church, ate lots of amazing food and watched Shrek 2 (more thinking about beauty). It wouldn't be a network weekend without a game, film or our traditional pots-and-pans wake-up call!

All of Network give a huge thank you to Jane Scott. She has provided a great link to what is now the tradition of Emmaus at Cairneyhill for many years. 2019 was her final weekend as she will be retiring from Network at Easter this year – everyone is very grateful for all that goes into the weekends and we hope that the dented pot lids and many handprints bring back happy memories for years to come!

*Mo Brand, Youth Development Worker*

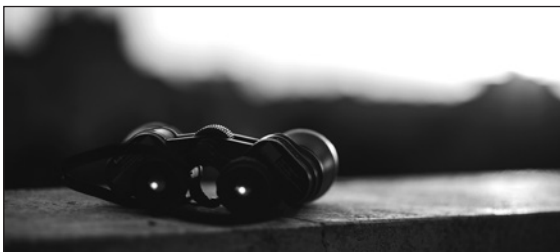
### Small binoculars wanted

Do you have a small, light pair of binoculars you could donate?

We are going to have an occasional bird-watching group for all ages and some extra binoculars would be useful.

For more information and dates of trips out watch the Sunday announcements or join the email list by contacting:

**heathermchaffie@hotmail.com**



## Green shoots or little acorns?

As part of the Edinburgh Eco-Congregation network, on 23rd February, we heard David Bethune the Eco-Congregation Scotland Co-ordinator speak on: "**How green is your church?**"

It was a lively well-attended event – with about 45 people from 20 different ecumenical congregations in the area – and from Gullane and Inverness! Most were at the early stages of growing an Eco-Congregation commitment. There are now 450 congregations of all denominations registered with this charity activity (Scottish Registered Charity SC041287). David shared some of the global climate challenges we face due to human ignorance and greed.

He linked these urgent issues to Biblical texts, and gave Biblical reasons why we, as the Church and individually, should care:

*For in Him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through Him and for Him. (Colossians 1:16)*

Wardie is one of only 3 (out of 450) congregations meeting the (top) Gold standard. This means we regularly embed 'green' ideas as a congregation and individuals and go further in engaging the local community, or as we have done approaching banks and major shops and writing to politicians. We make a difference, in our community together.

### Green shoots for 2019 Development Plans at Wardie:

As well as our exciting new Garden Project, we want to start looking at the impact of our buying of everyday supplies:

- are the things we use either recycled or recyclable, or
- environmentally damaging or wasting carbon (plastic)?

If you want to know more about Wardie as an Eco-Congregation, contact Heather McHaffie (heathermchaffie@hotmail.com) or me.

*Karen Bowman*

### Kidz@Wardie – Pennies for Tilda rejuvenated!

Namaste, everyone! At the end of February the young people in the Primary and Sunday Club age groups listened very attentively to a talk about Wardie's long association with the Tilda Evangelical Mission Hospital in India. Back in 1982 Wardie Sunday School began collecting Pennies for Tilda ('Pennies' meaning coins of any value that are currently in UK use) and the Hippo money boxes from then will still be used today as the children bring their 'Pennies' on Sunday mornings to continue supporting the staff and patients and families of the Mission Hospital in Tilda.

So, parents, guardians, grandparents, friends and relatives – please give the coins in your purses and pockets to the children to feed the Hippos on Sunday mornings.

And so no one from the Wardie Church family feels left out, remember there is a wooden box at the rear of the sanctuary, near the AV desk, for anyone to drop in Pennies for Tilda, and don't forget that bringing empty computer printer cartridges to be recycled supports Wardie as an Eco-Congregation and the proceeds are added to the amount collected annually for Tilda.

## Meet our New Elders: Robin Black



*Last May we had an intake of new church elders. In an occasional feature we'll chat to them one by one. This time, Robin Black talks about Wardie, Sunday school and Murrayfield.*

### **How long have you been coming to Wardie and what attracted you?**

We've have been coming to Wardie since we moved to Trinity about four years ago. We were attracted to Wardie because it's church that's welcoming to families and because we live nearby, so it was a pretty obvious decision.

### **What do you like about it?**

It's a very welcoming church with a good sense of community. Our family have made some good friends here.

### **Tell us about anything that you do in the church.**

I co-ordinate our Sunday club for children. Thankfully we have a healthy participation from young people at Wardie.

### **Tell us a bit about your faith – perhaps about its beginnings and in what ways you feel it is developing.**

I'm not sure my faith is developing, I've always thought of it as fairly constant. Maybe I'm doing something wrong, I must chat to Ute!

### **Tell us something about yourself that we might not know.**

I enjoy cheering Scotland on at Murrayfield, although by the time this is published I may be wondering why!

## Wardie Ladies Spring Drinks and Chat

8th May, 8pm

The Herringbone

*All ladies welcome!*

## The Columba Experience:

22nd to 29th June/29th June to 6th July



If you're 18–25 and interested in a pilgrimage, the Church of Scotland are running an eight-day journey through Argyll that follows in the footsteps of the Celtic saints.

*Find out more at [facebook.com/thecolumbaexperience](https://www.facebook.com/thecolumbaexperience)*

**Closing date: Friday, 10th May**



# Trinity Community Gala 24th and 25th August 2019

## Photography Competition: 'What Trinity Means to Me'

Sponsored by Lomond Park Co Ltd

In anticipation of the Gala, Lomond Park Co Ltd is sponsoring a photography competition to the theme of 'What Trinity Means to Me'.

We welcome entries from the budding photographers amongst you under the following 3 categories:

\* **Under 10 year olds – prize £25**

\* **Under 18 year olds – prize £50**

\* **Over 18 years old – Prize £100**

Entries should be delivered in **hard copy** and no smaller than 7x5" – either by post or by hand to:

Wardie Parish Church office,  
Netherby Road, EH5 3JE,  
no later than **Friday, 16th August 2019.**

Each entry should be marked with the name/age/contact details of the entrant.

Presentation is at the entrant's discretion, e.g. mounts/accompanying commentary etc.

A maximum of 3 entries per entrant.

**Entries will be on show in Wardie Parish Church on Saturday, 24th August, 11pm–4pm when contemporary Scottish artist, John Brown, will judge the competition.**

**Winning and runners up entrants in each category will then be on show on Sunday, 25th August in Lomond Park, 11pm–4pm.**

You can find full terms and conditions on our website: [www.wardie.org.uk](http://www.wardie.org.uk)



## Worship at Wardie, April 2019

*Kidz@Wardie on holiday on 7th and 14th April*

- 3rd 8.30pm Midweek Communion Service in the New Hall  
 7th 10.30am Morning Service Lent 5  
 Rev. Dr Kenneth Fleming: Suffering and Consolation  
 (2 Corinthians 1:3–11)

*No Midweek Communion Service during Holiday Club Week*

- 14th 10.30am Palm Sunday Morning Service  
 Rev. Ute Jaeger-Fleming: Suffering in the Company  
 of Criminals (Luke 23: 32–49)

### Ecumenical Holy Week Services of the Council of Churches Together in Trinity and Goldenacre

- 14th 6.15pm Palm Sunday evening worship at **St Philip's** Logie  
 Green Road  
 16th 7.30pm **Wardie Parish Church**, God in Times of Suffering:  
 Walking with Jesus  
 17th 7.30pm **Holy Cross**, Bangholm Loan

*No Midweek Communion at Wardie during Holy Week*

- 18th 7.30pm Maundy Thursday at **St. James' Goldenacre**

### Good Friday

- 19th 7.30pm Good Friday Service with Stabat Mater, Pergolesi,  
**Inverleith St. Serf's**

### Easter Sunday

- 21st 8.00am Early Easter Service together with St. Columba's  
 Hospice followed by Easter breakfast in the New  
 Hall (you can join us for breakfast only). Meeting  
 point at the reception area of the Education Centre.  
 10.30am Easter Day Family Service with Holy Communion  
 (all ages are welcome) and Easter egg hunt for the  
 children.  
*Please bring spring flowers for the Easter Cross.*  
 24th *No Midweek Communion Service due to  
 Kirk Session Meeting*  
 28th 10.30am Morning Service with stations on "Wardie in  
 Action" and Annual Congregational Meeting  
*Traidcraft Stall*

## Flowers in Church

Aren't these tete-a-tetes wonderful in the garden just now?

I dare say the chats over the garden fence are of great value too! I'm just showing off my linguistic skills – and minimal horticultural ones too! But the spirit is willing! As ever, I am so lucky to have folk like those below to help me make it happen in the Church on a weekly basis. Thank you.

Please contact me if I can be of any help or give information.

*Sheila Mann*

April 7th	Mary Wilson
April 14th	Eileen Wood
April 28th	Ev Mc Vie
May 5th	Margaret Donaldson
May 12th	Mona Gardiner
May 19th	Sheila Mann
May 26th	Isla Stalker
June 2nd	Barbara Brodie
June 9th	Phyllis Anderson
June 16th	Jane Johnston
June 23rd	Karen Bowman



## Open Gardens Weekend 8–9th June

This popular event is on the second weekend in June so save the dates in your diary. If you have not joined in before, it is very worthwhile. Addresses are provided and it is a great chance to wander round and speak to the owners about what they grow. There is no charge but people can give voluntary donations which will go towards the church garden.



The church garden will be joining in on the Sunday afternoon. We plan to have a plant sale there, so please pot up any spare plants to bring along.

## Tea and cakes, anyone?

**On 12th May at 4pm everybody is welcome to a Tea Party.**

The Fellowship Team would like to invite everyone to share a cup of tea and a slice of cake (or two!). Enjoy the company of others in the congregation, sit down with a good cup of tea and have a blether in the relaxed surroundings of someone's sitting room.

Please sign up if you would like to attend, or would be happy to host, a Tea Party. Details and sign up sheets in the Entrance Hall of the Church or contact Sarah Matthews.

## Trinity Community Gala 24th and 25th August 2019

Do you have a gazebo or a large open tent you would be happy to lend us for use at the  
**Trinity Community Gala on 25th August?**

If so, we'd love to hear from you.

Please let us know at

**trinitycommunitygala@gmail.com**

**... and don't miss our exciting photography competition, 'What Trinity Means to Me'!**

**See p. 5 for details.**

**ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for contributions for the May edition of News at Wardie: Sunday 14th April.**

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

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