

News at Wardie



www.wardie.org.uk

January 2020

A PAGE TURNING



The New Year is already upon us. Welcome to 2020.

Christmas may already seem like it was a while ago. For Christians, Christmas is obviously a time of great celebration. It's a time to rejoice, to remember and to

reflect – all connected with a child being born over 2000 years ago. Some of the carols sung, Bible readings read and messages told will likely for many have had a familiar ring to them but something new is always found to refresh and inspire.

In practical terms Christmas can be a time where we can enjoy additional time with family and friends away from our usual routine or for others a chance to enjoy some quiet time. I hope you were blessed with the Christmas that you hoped for.

It was an unusual Christmas at Wardie. During the busy time of services and celebrations we said “das lebewohl” (adieu, goodbye, farewell) to our Minister.

Ute's decision to leave Wardie was not taken lightly and her return to Germany was a difficult one to make but a choice fully understood.

In her time at Wardie, Ute made a great impact on many people and community groups. She leaves us with an exciting Development Plan for the next few years in place, a very positive Local Church Review that was completed in 2019 and an intake of new Elders – all of which sets Wardie up to continue to serve our community and be a strong Christian witness in our area.

On December 15th, after the Community Carols event, we had the opportunity to celebrate Ute's time at Wardie, to say a few words to mark the occasion and to present her and Kenneth with gifts that they take with our love and best wishes onto their next chapter. Wardie's loss is Germany's gain and they will be greatly missed.

Rev Ann Inglis has been appointed by Edinburgh Presbytery as our Interim Moderator. We look forward to working with her as we pass from one ministry to the

next. Ann is a familiar face at Wardie, having led worship on many occasions. The Kirk Session is responsible for the appointment of a Locum Minister, who will lead worship in the vacancy period, and we are hopeful of an appointment in January.

A New Year is often seen as a page turning and time for a new act to be written, and so it is with Wardie. We may be without a full-time Minister but we are not without leadership. The aims in our mission statement will continue to guide our work – “Building relationships, building community – finding God in dialogue with the world and its people.”

As we prepare to take on what awaits us all in 2020, I share the words of American Pastor Joel Osteen – “Let go of yesterday. Let today be a new beginning and be the best that you can, and you'll get to where God wants you to be.”

This sentiment can apply across all aspects of our lives. While looking back has value, and we would be unwise not to learn from past experiences, we cannot dwell there. When I last checked, the past has a 100% record of being unable to be changed. Our efforts have to be focused on the present and the future.

A couple of years ago, I worked through a

daily readings book which journeyed through the book of Proverbs. In a time of vacancy and a time of change Proverbs 3:5–6 is salient: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

In 2020 we have a clear vision for the future of Wardie. Let us take up our vision and walk the path together.

Paul Mitchell, Joint Session Clerk



Ute and Kenneth

News at Wardie, January 2020

The Newsletter of Wardie Parish Church

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January Retiring Offering Sunday 26th January Fresh Start

The theme of Sunday worship on **24th November** was helping people make a home for themselves.

Biddy Kelly, MD of local charity Fresh Start (pictured), spoke to us movingly about the work they do. We learned about how Fresh Start provides starter packs for people coming out of homelessness. We learned about the Hit Squads that go out and help transform grubby and bare rooms into clean, bright and comfortable living and sleeping spaces. We learned about Fresh Start's plans for a new community hub for the homeless.



Since Biddy spoke to us, many members of Wardie have thought about how they can help by volunteering. On **Sunday 26th January** you have an opportunity to provide much-needed funding to purchase paints for the hit squads, to buy household essentials for the starter packs and to help provide equipment and facilities for the new Hub.

Please remember that Fresh Start works in our local community.

Chris Boston

PS I am thrilled to report that the sum of £419.20 was raised at the retiring collection after Communion on 22nd September. Thank you all so very much for this generous contribution to the work of Children of Peace.

Prayer Corner

God of glory,

As we start a new year, receive our thanks for your loving presence that comes to us in the beauty of sunrise and sunset; in glowing skies and bare trees; in people we love and who love us.

Thank you that you hold all things together; that you nurture peace in people's hearts; and that in ways we do not understand you touch our individual lives and at the same time we can feel you in the change of the seasons. For as nature changes, so the seasons bring to the surface different qualities of your life and of your Being.

Bring the intimacy of the presence of your Spirit to those in need and work through people to bring more justice and equality in our world.

So hear us as we cry out for others in need of your love.

Our God, give healing, give comfort, give perseverance.

Mairi and Robin Leach

Christmas card collection



Over the past few years you have been invited to bring your Christmas Cards to church during January and leave them in the specially marked box at the church door. Sadly the facilities for recycling the cards in aid of charities no longer exist. You can of course still recycle your cards through the domestic collection service – but please do not bring them to church! Thanks.

Christine Shepherd

FUN QUIZ NIGHT

Monday 13th January 2020
7.30pm

Beat those January blues and come along to **Tom and Maureen Kelly's famous Quiz Night** in aid of the Windows Fund. Come as a team or join with friends on the night to take part in this lively event!



Tickets £10, to include refreshments, from Fiona Campbell and Christine Petrie.

WARDIE GUILD

On **8th January** is a talk by Margaret Clarke on one of our Projects, **Malawi Fruits**.

On **22nd January** we have a talk by Roy Johnstone on Henry VIII and his Six Wives (as told by Henry).

Wendy Sodergren

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 27th January:

John and Christine Hodge: Israel Palestine
with Very Rev Andrew McLennan
Contact person: Christine Shepherd

Wardie Ladies

Thursday 16th January, from 8pm

Come and join us at Herringbone!

Everyone is very welcome to come along for drinks and a natter – friends, family, mums from Toddler Group, Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers – the more the merrier!

Support for those living with dementia and their carers

The Pastoral Care Team has got together a number of resources which might be of use in all aspects of pastoral care. These can be found in a plastic display box in the Netherby Road corridor. Of particular use for those living with dementia and their carers and communities are the following:

- Mission and Older People: A Study Guide, published by The Church of Scotland
- Faith in Older People: One Step at a Time
- VOCAL: Support for carers in Edinburgh

Please feel free to borrow any of these publications (but please return them!).

Hope and joy: the Banner Group's latest work

The new pulpit fall and communion table set are designed for use for Ordinary Time, all those Sundays after Trinity when the liturgical colour is traditionally green and mainly in late spring, summer and autumn.



Green for growth, growth for plants and flowers, then the seasons and spiritual growth. These were the starting points. The communion table piece, with wild intertwining stems, represents the multitude of different pathways of our journey through life and our growth in knowledge and understanding. It has rainbow colours and tendrils representing hope and joy at all the blessings of life, and words expressing some steps towards enlightenment.

The pulpit fall is more restrained. Here the green tendrils are straightened and represent a pathway to knowledge of God, with the coloured tendrils standing for the beauties of our natural world. The background is inspired by the delicate colours of the squares of the church windows, through which the colours of the seasons shine.

Worship at Wardie, January 2020

5th	10.30am	Morning Service
12th	10.30am	Morning Service
19th	11.00am	Ecumenical Service at St James Goldenacre during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Only Kidz@Wardie and Sunday Club continue to meet as usual (at Wardie)

26th	10.30am	Morning Service with Full Communion (all generations welcome)
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Followed by Souper Sunday for all to share in a simple lunch

Souper Sunday Sunday 26th January after the morning service



A soup lunch with bread and fruit.
All welcome!

Wardie Walkers

Wednesday 29th January

Portobello, Figgate Park and Duddingston
(relatively flat walk)

Meet Clark Road
cycle path entrance at
10.00a.m. for bus.
Bring warm waterproof
clothes, stout shoes.

Contact **Douglas** and
Linda Coghill



Sporting Conversations



Thursday 6th February, 7.30pm

Wardie Parish Church

In conversation with

Stewart Weir

Stewart Weir is a former sports reporter at the *Evening Times*, chief sportswriter at the *Scottish Mirror* and Head of Sport at the *Herald & Times Group*. Stewart has worked extensively in PR, for governing bodies and individual clients such as Sir Chris Hoy and Stephen Hendry.

Stewart is the co-author of *'My Name's Doddie'*, *'The World According to Doddie'* and the author of *'100 Great Scottish Rugby Moments'*. He is a regular on talkSPORT.



Come and hear Stewart in conversation with
BBC Sports Commentator Paul Mitchell.

Pennies for Tilda

Many thanks to everyone who collected pennies for Tilda throughout 2019 to help achieve the target of £1000, and a special thank you to two very generous benefactors. A huge thank you to Bill Reid for counting and banking all the money, which will be sent to the Tilda Mission Hospital in January 2020.

Brian Cooper

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for contributions for the February edition of News at Wardie: Sunday 12th January.

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

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